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**THURSDAY, AUGUST 23RD, 2012**



**THE GRAND  
PAVILION AT 80!**

(See page 8 for more pictures from its past)



**Eisteddfod  
Picture  
Scrapbook -  
See pages  
20, 21, 26**

**BACK TO SCHOOL!**

**ENSURING YOUR CHILDREN  
HAVE ALL THEY NEED ON THAT FIRST  
SCHOOL DAY - PAGE 18**

## Porthcawl students' A-Level delight

Picture by MALCOLM NUGENT.



ABOVE: There were plenty of smiling faces at Porthcawl Comprehensive School on A-Level results day. For details, and more photographs, see page 4.

**Samantha B**

Ladies Fashion and Accessories



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**BRIDGEND VICTIM'S 'WHOLE LIFE HAS CHANGED  
BECAUSE OF STREET INCIDENT' – Crown court is told**

## Thief attacked driver and stole prized car

**THE** manager of a Bridgend opticians was devastated after a man robbed him in the street of his turbo-charged Mini Cooper.

Cardiff Crown Court heard that the vehicle was the pride and joy of David Williams and, so severe was the effect of the crime, he no longer drives.

Scott Pinches (24) of Danybryn, Gylfach Goch, admitted a charge of robbery.

He was given an extended sentence of five years involving three-and-a-half years in custody and put on licence for a further 18 months.

Prosecutor James Wilson said that on June 27, 22-year-old Mr Williams returned to his car after working in the shop and noticed that the windscreen wipers were

**Report by  
AJ SICLUNA**

up. He thought someone was joking.

Pinches appeared, demanded the ignition keys and struck Mr Williams to the left side of the head with a heavy length of wood, before trying to push him over.

Pinches shouted: "I'm going to kill you if you don't give me the keys."

Mr Williams did so, as he believed he could have been seriously hurt.

Pinches calmly got into the car and drove off.

Someone nearby identified Pinches as being responsible. Mr Williams suffered swellings to the side of his head.

Later that evening, said Mr Wilson, Pinches flagged down a police car and said: "It was me." The weapon was in the vehicle's footwell.

He confessed he had been walking around Bridgend looking for a car to take.

Mr Williams later stated that he has become worried since the attack after being normally a confident person.

He also stated: "I no longer feel like going out at night."

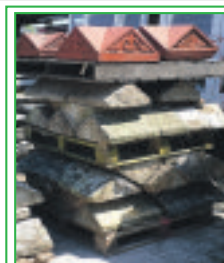
He said that when he sat in the car when it was recovered, he felt he could smell the defendant.

The incident, he added, had affected his work and his family.

"My whole life has changed as a result of what happened," he said.

Pinches was said to have convictions for robbery, assaulting a paramedic and a delivery man, and possessing a bladed article.

**(CONTINUED  
ON PAGE 12)**

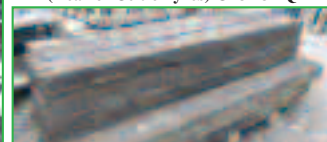


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# Marie Curie group's £10k in first year!



BRIDGEND and Porthcawl Marie Curie fundraising group are celebrating – because in their first year they raised more than £10,000, with events such as 'The Daffodil Appeal', 'Blooming Great tea party', supermarket collections, donations and fetes.

The group has just held its AGM and has many more events planned for the next year.

Naturally, this cannot be done without the support of the public, and the group sends out a huge thank you to all who have supported them.

If anyone can spare a couple of hours per month to help the group, telephone the Community Fundraiser on 01792 461435

HELEN THOMAS

## Porthcawl Stroke Club news round-up



**GLENYS LEWIS** of New Road, Porthcawl, once again lifted the spirits of the Porthcawl Stroke Club members.

Whenever we feel a little low, Glenys comes to the rescue with her team of volunteers to add an abundance of happiness and joy to all who attend.

**Did you know you can read your GEM online? bridgend-today.co.uk**

All members had a wonderful buffet laid on, what a treasure! All members would like to express our sincere gratitude to Glenys and all her volunteers, it is very much appreciated.

In September, the Porthcawl Stroke Club will be celebrating 25 years of service, thanks to the dedication of volunteers. The special occasion will be held at the Grove Golf Club on the September 19. More information about the event will follow, as well as history of how the club started.

We would like to thank the media for the continuing support, making people aware of

the club.

Please send our good health wishes to John and Betty Phillips, Jean Groom, Pietro, Victoria Critchley, Dawn Edwards and Ken York, wishing you all a speedy recovery.

We would also like to thank Keith Duggan and Ray Cross for running the club since February 2001, now that's what you call volunteering!

Anyone wishing to join the club, contact Keith Duggan on 01656 773376, or Ray Cross on 01656 782190.

**Barbara Matthews** (on behalf of Porthcawl Stroke Club)

# Porthcawl sees the official opening of public pathway

**THE Bridgend AM** Carwyn Jones officially opened the Bridgend county borough stretch of the 870-mile All Wales Coast Path at a special event in Porthcawl.

Running for 11.5 miles along the picturesque coastline of Merthyr Mawr, Porthcawl, Sker and Kenfig, the route has been transformed by BCBC's rights of way team over the last six years at a cost of £1m.

Working in partnership with the Welsh Government, European Regional Development Fund, Countryside Council for Wales, the Bridgend Local Access Forum, Porthcawl Town Council and Cornelly and Merthyr Mawr community councils, the path has led to improved public rights of access from Porthcawl up to and beyond Pink Bay, particularly for those with mobility problems.

It's also created new access at Kenfig National Nature Reserve, through Merthyr Mawr Warren, Newton Burrows and Trecco Bay, while the replacement of 14 access structures with kissing gates and bridleway gates has improved accessibility along the coast for all users.

A BCBC spokesperson said that a critical part of this project has involved consultation with local businesses and working in partnership with a number of local landowners who have been affected by the route of the coast path, including the Kenfig Corporation Trust, Parkdean

Holidays, Newton Porthcawl Estates, Merthyr Mawr Estates, and the Price, Knight and Evans families.

The majority of the route is new public footpath, but 1.4 miles has been registered as public bridleway. The council has also upgraded another 1.5 miles of existing rights of way including constructing a new pedestrian/cycle track across Locks Common and a Boardwalk between Rest Bay and Pink Bay.

The popular Rest Bay Boardwalk has been one of the largest projects within the scheme, costing more than £300k. The nearby Locks Common shared walkway and cycleway project cost £220k and has provided increased access between Porthcawl and Rest Bay for cyclists, pedestrians and those with limited mobility.

Deputy Leader of BCBC, Coun David Sage, said: "I'm incredibly proud that Bridgend county borough can boast such a picturesque section of the All Wales Coast Path. I'd like to thank the Rights of Way Team at Bridgend County Borough Council for all their work to make this so accessible and attractive to walkers."

"We know it's brought many thousands of walkers to this part of the path already. It's a true people's path."

"As ever, a project like this is dependent on outstanding collaboration so we must thank our partners within Welsh Government, European Regional Development Fund and Countryside Council for Wales, as well as local



ABOVE:

Carwyn Jones, AM for Bridgend, at the official launch.

support from the Bridgend Local Access Forum, Porthcawl Town Council and Cornelly and Merthyr Mawr community councils.

"And we would not have been able to achieve this without the co-operation of the landowners who have

been affected by the project. Without their agreement and assistance the creation of the Bridgend county stretch of the coast path would not have been possible."

First Minister Carwyn Jones AM added: "I am delighted to open the Bridgend county stretch

of the Wales Coast Path. This significant project has involved support from a wide range of partners including local landowners, which will benefit local people and visitors to the area by providing access to this beautiful section of our coastal landscape."

## Coalfields Trust's help for local halls

**ENERGY-inefficient community buildings in Bridgend borough are among scores across Wales's former mining areas set to receive a helping hand in being brought up to 21st century standards.**

Grants of up to £25,000 are being awarded by The Coalfields Regeneration Trust (CRT) in Wales in a bid to save community organisations money, make them more sustainable and reduce their carbon footprint.

The Welsh Government-funded Coalfields Greener Communities programme will invest money in new insulation, heating systems and other energy efficiency and waste management measures.

Groups running the buildings will also get help through energy audits and behaviour change workshops teaching them how to think greener.

"Many community buildings are extremely inefficient in terms of their ability to both generate and retain heat and energy," said CRT Operations Manager Siân Sykes.

"Lots of these buildings are very large with one central heating system, which means you have to heat the whole building to run a small meeting. "The behaviour change workshops are designed to help

people understand technical issues – such as how thermostatic controls work – to reduce their costs and energy use, for home owners and landlords to make houses more efficient, but there's a gap when it comes to community

buildings". The closing date for applications to Greener Communities is September 7. Further information available by contacting the Wales office of CRT on 01443 404455.

## Dressing for success

Chwarae Teg, the body which promotes the role of women in the Welsh workforce, and Welsh cancer charity, Tenovus, are launching their Trust to Progress campaign.

This calls upon women to donate any smart office wear they no longer use, so it can be sold by Tenovus to other women eager to advance at work.

The campaign aims to help women climb the career ladder, while also supporting cancer patients and their families.



Newly-promoted assistant manager Stacey Rees, from Porthcawl, is looking for new clothes to help women make a professional impression.

## HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL AUGUST 30)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
23 Thur	10.54	9.4	23.14	9.2
24 Fri	11.41	8.8		
25 Sat	00.08	8.6	12.43	8.3
26 Sun	01.17	8.1	14.05	8.0
27 Mon	02.45	7.9	15.33	8.0
28 Tues	04.14	8.1	16.51	8.6
29 Wed	05.23	8.8	17.47	9.2
30 Thur	06.11	9.3	18.35	9.7

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

## Call for more views on Bridgend library

**I SHOULD like to thank everyone who has already taken part in our consultation on Bridgend Library.**

The consultation is open until September 21 so there's plenty of time to take part. Forms can be picked up at the library, Civic Offices, the Recreation Centre or can be filled in online by visiting 'current consultations' at [www.bridgend.gov.uk](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk).

We've already had a good response, but we'd especially like to hear from more young people. There's a version of the survey especially for children age eight and over. As the library users of the future, it's vital we hear their views.

We also want to hear

from more people who don't use the library, so we can find out why.

As well as the survey, I'd like to invite readers to a special meeting on the future of Bridgend Library at Brackla Tabernacle on Thursday, September 6 from 6pm.

This will be an independently-hosted session where we can openly debate the issues affecting the library and the proposals around its future.

Anyone is welcome to attend but places must be booked. To come to this session, email [consultation@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:consultation@bridgend.gov.uk) or contact Margaret Griffiths on 01656 754803 by August 30.

**Coun Lyn Morgan, BCBC cabinet member for Wellbeing**



# PORTHCAWL RESCUE: Paramedic is honoured

PORTHCAWL featured on a BBC Wales programme last week, when paramedics were honoured for acts of bravery.

The awards celebrated 75 years of the '999' number and acknowledged the heroic acts of officers and volunteers of the emergency services perform on a daily basis.

The Paramedic award went to Aneurin Heath from Carmarthen for a rescue in November 2011, when he was with the Wales Air Ambulance in Swansea.

He was called out to a casualty who had fallen 30 ft down a cliff into a rocky cove in Porthcawl, sustaining serious spinal and pelvic injuries.

by PHILIP IRWIN

*The citation read: With the tide coming in fast, he stayed in the turbulent water using a spinal board to keep the patient's head above the incoming tide.*

*He then used a heavy medical kit as a shield against the full force of the tide to enable the casualty to be winched up to the Air Ambulance and taken to hospital.*

*With darkness closing in fast and the tide having covered all escape routes, Aneurin then led the casualty's partner to safety above the rocks.*

*Aneurin, who has been a paramedic for 25 years, said: "It was quite an ordeal for me and my*

colleagues, but it was much more so for the patient, who had very serious injuries.

"Time was crucial. The patient was in shock and getting colder by the second. The tide was coming in fast and daylight was vanishing at a rapid rate.

"Our pilot did a magnificent job of getting me down as close as possible to the patient and then managing to winch him up so that my paramedic colleague on board could treat him on the way to hospital.

"I merely did what any of my paramedic colleagues would do. We are in the job to save lives and provide the best service and chance of treatment and at times survival to patients, and that's what I and the team tried our best to do in this instance.

"Winning this award makes me very proud, not just for myself but for my colleagues in the Welsh Ambulance Service. I regard it more as a Paramedic Team Award, which I've accepted on behalf of all my colleagues, whose clinical skills are tested to the limit on a daily basis."

## Subway's new look

South Wales Police officers have been working with local youngsters, to bring a splash of colour to the Broadlands underpass.

Officers, children and staff from Bridgend's Wilkinson's store, decided to give the underpass a new lease of life by painting a mural.

PCSOs Heather Dobbs and Lisa Moore launched the project in response to the community's concerns about recurring graffiti problems in the underpass.

The mural was designed by artist Dan Dwelly, 25, and assistant Alan Cartwright, 29, from the Evangelical School of Theology in Bryntirion.

Wilkinson's in Bridgend kindly donated the paint and materials, and staff came down to lend a hand.

PCSO Heather Dobbs, said: "Without Dan's help and design work, I would like to thank him, as it really was lovely to see so many local children looking after their community".

## Student takes carrot walk for sight charity!

OPTOMETRY student Angharad Hobby, 21, from Bridgend, is planning to don a carrot costume to raise vital funds for Fight for Sight, the UK charity dedicated to funding pioneering eye research to prevent sight loss and treat eye disease.

Angharad, who is in her third year at Cardiff University, will be taking on a 15-mile walk through the streets of London dressed as a carrot - as part of the Fight for Sight Carrots NightWalk, on Friday, September 21, to raise £150 for the charity.

Angharad said: "I'm hoping as many people as possible will support me in reaching my fundraising target.



Angharad Hobby.

Healthy vision is an issue that's very close to my heart, and I'm hoping to do my bit to help people all over the world living without sight."

To support Angharad, visit <http://www.justgiving.com/vegetablepun-sarehardtobeet>. For more information about the Fight for Sight Carrots NightWalk, visit [www.fightforsight.org.uk](http://www.fightforsight.org.uk) /carrots or call 0207 264 3900.

## Preparing for autumn fayre

PREPARATIONS are under way for our autumn fayre on Saturday, October 20 at Pencoe Welfare hall from 10am to noon.

There will be four or five trade stall besides the usual tombola, books, bric-a-brac and cake stall.

This year a donation will be given to Wales Air Ambulance.

Our meeting on August 14 was our belated Jubilee celebration tea party. In other words an afternoon of fun and chatter.

Our president Val had dreamed up some silly fun games, members bought a small plate of sandwiches and the committee served tea and cakes. It was nice to have time to sit and talk to our members over a cup of coffee, as our usual busy meeting doesn't allow the committee much time for socialising, and I can only hope the members enjoyed the afternoon as

### PENCOED WI

much as I did.

There was no craft meeting in August but we have decided to enter the decorated Christmas tree display at Margam Park, so our September craft meeting will be full of ideas (I hope).

At our usual September meeting, our speaker is Dean Powell, who will be talking about William Price.

This will be on September 11 at Pencoe Welfare Hall, 1.45 to 4pm. There is no obligation to join and the tea is free.

For further information telephone 01656 862181 or 01656 860289.

## Group hears a report from national AGM

### MERTHYR MAWR WI

AT the August meeting, Gwerfil Gardner reported back from the AGM which had been held at the Royal Albert Hall.

The Chair addressed the meeting and talked about why people join the WI: for friendship, learning and campaigning.

Several of our campaigns have been successful, namely the 'Let's Cook' campaign, and the campaign to save our libraries.

This year's resolution to have more midwives was discussed at length and the resolution 'More Midwives' was passed by 96 per cent.

The guest speakers were Lord Julian Fellows, the actor in and author of *Downton*

# A-Level pupils are praised, but top grades have slipped

EDUCATION chiefs at Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) have praised pupils for excellent A-Level results.

A BCBC spokesperson said: "Initial results from the WJEC, which covers about two-thirds of the total number of examination entries from schools in Bridgend county borough, indicate that the overall pass rate has increased to 98.9 per cent, above the Welsh average and an improvement of 1.4 percentage points on 2011.

"The proportion achieving the very highest grades (A\* and A) has fallen this year, while those achieving a grade C or above has remained the same as in 2011.

"Encouragingly, results in the WJEC AS examinations show an improvement on last year's performance,

by PHILIP IRWIN

with increases at both grade A and grades A-E."

Coun Huw David, cabinet member for children and young people, said: "On behalf of the whole county borough, I would like to congratulate our young people on their achievements.

"There's no doubt that our students face increased challenges these days to find a place in higher education and employment, so it is extremely encouraging to see that they have responded so positively to these challenges and achieved such great results.

"We wish them all well as they take the next steps in their education and careers."

The BCBC Deputy Leader, Coun David Sage, said: "The pressures faced by young people in the current

economic climate mean that education, training and getting good qualifications have never been more important.

"I'm pleased to see our students working hard and succeeding in this way. Their success also reflects very well on the continued commitment given by the teaching and support staff in all our schools."

The percentage of pupils getting A and A\* grades this year was 19.0, meaning that BCBC has slipped behind the All-Wales average, which was 23.8. Last year (2011) the percentage was 24.3, and in 2010 it was 20.4.

The percentage of pupils getting grades between A\* and C was identical to last year, at 76.0.

The percentage of pass grades gained (between A\* and E) was 98.9, which was better than the all-Wales average of 97.6.

## 'Nantyffyllon surgery is safe - for now'

Regional Tory AM Byron Davies says he has received assurances from health chiefs that a GP surgery in Nantyffyllon is to be retained - for the time being.

Mr Davies, a Welsh Conservative regional AM for South Wales West, contacted bosses at the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University health board as soon as he heard that the present GP was retiring on October 31.

"As this is a single handed practice, I was concerned about what would happen to the practice which has been in the village for decades and is housed in a fairly new surgery," he said.

"I have now had a letter from Dorothy Edwards, Joint Locality Director, which states the board will be managing the practice itself from November 1.

"The three other practices in the valley stated that they were unable to take on the extra 2,380 patients between them who are currently with the Nantyffyllon surgery.

"It seems to me that

this is the best solution in the short term and will keep everything going. The board has managed a practice in Pencoe for years quite successfully.

"Longer term, the board has been consulting with patients and may come forward with a different solution. The important thing is to ensure that there is a seamless transition for Nantyffyllon patients on November 1 when a new GP will be in post.

"Also, it is crucial that the board listens to the views of patients when they make decisions about the long term future of this practice.

"I would welcome any feedback from Nantyffyllon residents about what should happen and I can be contacted at Ty Hywel, National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay, CF99 1NA or byron.davies@wales.gov.uk"



David Hobbins playing 'Leclerc' in rehearsals

## Allo, Allo, the cast can't stop laughing!

'ALLO, ALLO!' is the latest offering from Bridgend Castle Players, but the company has found rehearsals for this comedy to be particularly difficult due to the cast collapsing in fits of laughter!

However, director, Nigel Ritchie, promises that straight faces for the actors will be the order of the night during the actual performances. However audiences should come prepared with plenty of tissues to wipe away their tears of (laughter!)

The play was written by Jeremy Lloyd and David Croft, from the original hilarious script of the first episode of the extremely popular television series.

For several members of the large cast, this will be their first production with the company, as Castle Players have suc-

cessfully been recruiting new actors and stage personnel over the past 12 months, as part of their new initiative to extend the promotion of dramatic art in the Bridgend county.

They are also re-introducing a youth section this year, and full details of this, together with forthcoming productions and venues may be viewed on their web-site, [bridgendcastleplayers.org.uk](http://bridgendcastleplayers.org.uk).

Performances of 'Allo, Allo' will be held on Saturday, September 15, at the Pencoe Social Club, on Sunday, September 16 at the OCLP Social Club, Bryntirion, also September 21-22 at Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen, (Tondur site).

Details and maps of the venues may be obtained from the Castle Players' web-site. Tickets may be ordered via the web-site, or at the door on the night.

## QUIZ POSERS

HERE are this week's specials:

1. Who won the 'Best Actor' Oscar for the film *Scent of a Woman*?
2. In the famous book *Alice in Wonderland*, what type of creatures were the mallets in the croquet game?
3. The two baseball teams in Chicago are the 'Cubs' and who?
4. Which savage bear-like carnivorous marsupial is found only in the wilds of an Australian island?

A RUDGE (for Quiz League)

- ANSWERS:  
1. Al Pacino.  
2. Fliamingoes.  
3. White Sox.  
4. Tasmanian Devil.

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# Porthcawl Comprehensive welcomes 'excellent' results for A-Level students

Pictures by  
**MALCOLM NUGENT**



ABOVE: Sidney Rogers.



A 'Mobot' and a (left-handed) Usain Bolt from Morgan Davies and Lewis Campbell.



Charlotte Hill.



Alex Howells.



ABOVE: Zoe Parris, Jessica Townsend and Bethan Williams.



Hayden Lau and Lewis Williams.



Amy Sheppard.



**'HARDWORK, improvement and success,'** three short words that accurately summarise Porthcawl Comprehensive Students' AS and A2 performances for 2011-12.

A school spokeswoman reported: "Students at AS and A-Level have had their endeavour rewarded with excellent results. There is a large debt of gratitude for teachers who have worked so hard once again this year, and for parents who have supported their sons and daughters."

"At A-Level, the pass rate at A\* to E was 99.2 per cent while the A\* to C pass rate was an impressive 82.34 per cent. Almost 30 per cent of the whole entry percentage was at the A\*/A grade."

"A very impressive 15 students achieved 3A grades or better at A2 level, with some achieving four and even five 'A' levels."

"The AS results were equally as impressive - 93 per cent of the entry was A\* to E and 68 per cent achieved the A\* to C grade. At AS a very impressive 25 per cent of the entry achieved the A Grade."

The headteacher Mr Dykes said: "This excellent series of results will ensure Porthcawl students will secure places at some of the best universities in the country."

He congratulated staff and students for their hard work and dedication.

Mr Dykes concluded that the results were especially impressive given the large size of the entry; more than 350 papers were sat at A level.

The departments of History, English, Mathematics, Modern Foreign Languages and Textiles performed particular well. Other notable performances came from Art, Drama, Electronics and the Welsh Baccalaureate.

Students who performed particularly well were:

Jordi Bonet, 1A\*, 3A, 1B; Lowri Patterson 1A\*, 3A; Philip Pickett, 1A\*, 3A; Hayden Lau, 3A, 1B; Catherine Walters, 3A\*, 1A; Nia Thomas, 3A; Jessica Townsend, 2A\*, 1A; Bethan Williams, 2A\*, 1A; Lewis Williams, 2A\*, 1A; Kristian Farrow, 1A\*, 2A; Rachel Hailey 1A\*, 2A; Charlotte Hill, 1A\*, 2A; Alex Howells 1A\*, 2A; Sidney Rogers, 1A\*, 2A; Amy Sheppard, 1A\*, 2A.



ABOVE: Ross Murray and Jordi Bonet.



ABOVE: Lucy Davies and Ross Williams.



ABOVE: Philip Pickett and Nia Davies.



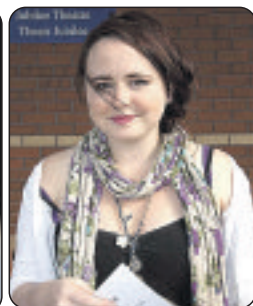
Joseph Muir and his mother.



Alex Jenkins and her mother.



ABOVE: Lauren Bell.



ABOVE: Catherine Walters.



Rachel Hailey checks out her results.

## Pencoed twins' A-Level success!



ABOVE: Twins Charlotte and Kirsty Scourfield are off to university in Swansea to study the same course. (Photograph by Mandy Thomas).

LAST week's A-Level results day produced tales of happiness and disappointment, but twin sisters at Pencoed Comprehensive School had their own story of success to tell!

In fact, the pair are now on their way to the same university - to study on the same course!

The 18-year-old twins, Charlotte and Kirsty Scourfield, from Pencoed, passed their A-Levels and are now going to Swansea Metropolitan University in September, to study for a BA in human resource management.



# Bridgend girl wins big with British Masters golf title!

**BRIDGEND** girl Lydia Hall clinched her maiden golf tournament, and a whopping £45,000, in dramatic style, as she came from two shots behind to take the inaugural ISPS Handa Ladies British Masters at Buckinghamshire Golf Club in England, last Saturday (August 18).

The 24-year-old, who held a share of the lead after day one, shot rounds of 66, 71 and 72 for a fantastic seven under par 54-hole total.

She sealed a one-stroke victory over Beth Allen of the United States in glorious conditions at the stunning parkland course, which was hosting the tournament for the first time.

She said: "I'm over the moon, obviously. I've been waiting to win a tournament for the last five years since I came on tour. I came in close at Q School and it's been a while."

"I've done well in Dubai the last few years but obviously today was one of my first experiences of final group and all of the pressures that come with that."

It was a double success for the town, also home her experienced caddie Lee Griffiths, who was on the bag for the first time.

"It was good to have Lee on the bag, who is experienced, as he kept me calm and focused throughout the round," Hall said.

Griffiths, who has worked for the likes of



**ABOVE:** Lydia on the 18th green, about to seal her maiden win and a £45,000 cheque. (Photographs courtesy of Tristan Jones/LET and the Ladies European Tour).

international players such as Melissa Reid and Anja Monke, commented:

"We are both from Bridgend. I played all my golf as a kid with Lydia's coach so we go way back, myself and John Peters."

"It's the first time I've worked for a Welsh girl. The Taffy were in operation today."

"I'm made up for her because she's been knocking at the door for some time."

Hall started out two behind the overnight leader, Ashleigh Simon, her partner in the last pairing, but it was at the par-four 17th where the drama unravelled.

Allen was a stroke clear with two holes to go and played her tee shot safely to the fairway, rather than taking on the water to go for the green.

After hitting her second shot into the bunker, she opted to take a penalty drop because the ball was completely imbedded, and from there she hit

her ball around 20 feet past the flag and three-putted for a triple bogey seven to drop two behind Hall.

After watching the drama from the 17th tee, Hall confidently drove her ball over the lake, 244 yards, to the front edge of the green, and three putted for a solid par to stay two clear with a hole to play.

At the par-three 18th, Hall's ball came to rest around 35 feet short of the hole, and her second putt hit the edge of the hole – but luckily, a bogey was enough to seal the win and take home the £45,000 first prize.

Hall's father, Wayne, a former Welsh rugby international, and her family were on hand to witness the spectacle. Wayne described his daughter's win as: "Absolutely fantastic, really great."

The effort and determination that Lydia has shown since she was a kid has been absolutely fantastic. It's only something she deserves.

"We are really proud of her as a family. We've been waiting the last 13 years for her to win, a big win, anyway."

"For a Welsh girl to come to England and win is even better!"

**QUESTION:**  
Did you know that you can read your GEM online?  
**bridgend-today.co.uk**



**Bridgend's Lydia Hall with her newly-acquired ISPS Handa Ladies British Masters trophy.**

## Elvis fans to go for world record bid

**THIS** year's Porthcawl Elvis Festival will include a world record attempt for the largest gathering of Elvis tribute artists.

Luckily, this year's best Welsh Elvis, Darren 'Graceland' Jones from Cwmbran will be on hand to lead the record attempt at Parkdean, Trecco Bay, on September 29. There are also plans for an 'Elvis procession' to follow the record attempt.

The aim is to beat the current world record, held by 645 Nike Western Employees who gathered in Las Vegas on November 23, 2010.

Sponsor Parkdean's regional director for Wales, Karl Schmidke, said: "We are delighted to be hosting this exciting event. At Trecco Bay, we really put our stamp on the Porthcawl

Elvis Festival, where we have a weekend dedicated to the King himself, including our Elvis Extravaganza in the Showdome."

The Porthcawl Elvis Festival is working with the Love2Walk Festival to bring in fans for the big day. They will be supplying a number of Elvis wigs and headpieces, the minimum needed to take part.

The record on Saturday, September 29 is sponsored by Parkdean, Trecco Bay, and will kick off with an Elvis Party, from 9.30am at Trecco Bay. All contestants must be counted by 10.30am for the official count to be announced at 10.45am.

An Elvis procession will then take place at 11am from Trecco Bay to the Hi-Tide, Porthcawl.

## Royal British Legion events

**FORTHCOMING** events for the Bridgend branch of the Royal British Legion (RBL) are as follows:

Saturday, September 22 at Llandaff Cathedral (7.30pm); concert to commemorate the work of the RBL, featuring the Llandaff City Church in Wales Primary School, the Band of the Princess Division and the South Wales Male Choir, composed by Mr Jamie Owen.

Tickets: £20 (concession for members of the

RBL, OAPs and children under 18), available from Tease People, or Mr SJ Nash, county secretary, on 01443 673516.

Saturday, September 29; presentation dinner at Pencoed Social Club (7.30pm). Tickets: £12 a head from Mr Andrew Reekie (01656 669988) by the end of August.

Saturday, October 20; social evening at the United Service Club, Tondur Road, Bridgend (7.30pm). **AR**

## Story Lab sees young readers rise to the challenge

**THE** national Summer Reading Challenge is creating a buzz throughout Bridgend county borough's libraries, with around 2,000 young book fans in the area already signed up.

This free challenge called Story Lab has been encouraging children aged between four and 11 to visit their local library four times over the summer and read six or more books of choice including fact books, stories, joke books, audio books and eBooks too.

With 780,000 children nationally getting involved this summer, the challenge is the biggest reading initiative in the UK.

It is designed for children of all reading abilities who will receive prizes and stickers during each visit to the library and a certificate and medal upon completion of the challenge, which they can proudly show at school in the autumn term.

An interactive website allows children to



A young book fan enjoys the 'animals of the world' stories and crafts session at Bridgend Library.

log books they have read, find new books recommended by other children and play online games. Children can log onto the website at [www.story-lab.org.uk](http://www.story-lab.org.uk) to discover the fun activities available.

Coun Lyn Morgan, cabinet member for wellbeing, said: "I'm pleased that we are able to support this UK wide initiative within our libraries."

"Reading is an important area for children's development so it's fantastic to see young book

lovers in Bridgend County Borough rising to the challenge."

There is still time for children to complete this year's Summer Reading Challenge. If your child wants to join in, or if you'd like more information about other activities happening at your local library, contact Bridgend Library and Information Service [blis@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:blis@bridgend.gov.uk), visit [www.bridgend.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk/libraries) or pop in today and speak to a member of staff.

## Kenfig Hill Cadets collect for RAFA



Kenfig Hill Cadets who helped to collect £626 for the Royal Air Forces Association

**KENFIG HILL** RAF Air Cadets were out in force at Tesco in Port Talbot collecting for this year's RAFA Wings Appeal, on behalf of Porthcawl and Kenfig Hill branch.

RAFA, the Royal Air Forces Association, provides welfare support to the RAF family.

This includes all serving and ex-serving personnel and their dependants.

Whether it's an injured airman fighting to get back on his feet, a young child missing their parent away on overseas operations, or a World War Two veteran needing a shoulder to lean on, RAFA is there

to help all generations of RAF Service personnel and their families.

To find out more about RAFA, you can go to their website at [www.rafa.org.uk](http://www.rafa.org.uk).

Sgt Kevin Gould ATC was in charge of the weekend and would like to thank Civilian

Instructor Mr Chris Lewis and all the cadets who attended.

It proved to be a quiet weekend due to the Olympics, but the public was generous and £626 was raised.

Lindsay Thomas, Secretary Civilian Committee

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## Samaritans get fruity!

**DO you have more fruit and veg than you can cope with?**

If so, Friends of the Bridgend Samaritans' Llantwit Major branch would be very happy to accept any donations of surplus fruit or veg, to turn into delicious jams and pickles!

The 'Friends' are well known for their fantastic puddings – and are now hoping their jams and pickles will be equally popular.

Every jar sold will raise much-needed funds for the Bridgend centre.

The ever-popular trip to Bath Christmas Market takes place this year on Saturday,

November 24 – Tickets are £16. Early booking is advised!

As always, many thanks to everyone who supports us – our efforts go a long way to helping to keep the phone lines open.

Please contact Jan on 01656 766103 to arrange fruit collection, and Julie on 01446 796471 for Bath tickets.

Julie Robinson



# Charities benefit from book festival bonanza



ABOVE: Children's Hospital of Wales, patients (left to right): Macey Chapplin, Gabrielle Pateras, and Thomas Roseburgh accepted the gift of books from Stella Cheeseman. The children were accompanied by parents and play therapists, Polly Smith and Sian Hulbert



ABOVE: Stella and Tony Cheeseman present cheques to Lyn Jones (chairman of Noah's Ark Appeal) and Emma Lionel (fundraising officer) and to Dr Tom Jones (chairman for Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research, Cardiff branch) and Michaela James (LLR fundraising manager Wales).

**THE Cowbridge Book Festival has been able to give substantial donations to two popular charities.**

Apart from putting on a series of literary events that attracted praise from all quarters, and which increased the profile of the town, there has now been a charitable windfall.

## RNLI lifeguards respond after woman's fall at Southerndown

RNLI lifeguards were called to help a woman who had injured her arm, after falling off the pebble bank on Southerndown beach on Sunday evening (August 19).

An RNLI spokeswoman said: "The woman, who was in her 60s, had been walking on top of the pebble bank when she slipped and badly injured her left arm.

"A member of the public reported the accident to the charity's life-

by **PHILIP IRWIN**

Stella Cheeseman, the organiser of the festival, told The GEM: "This year thanks to the support of many authors, publishers, local businesses, volunteers and associations in Cowbridge the festival raised a magnificent

£12,500."

The Festival's chosen charities for 2012 are The Noah's Ark Appeal for the Children's Hospital of Wales, and also Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research.

On Wednesday, August 13, representatives from the Cowbridge Book Festival visited the Children's Hospital of Wales to present cheques for £6,100 to each of the two charities.

The festival also donated a wide selection of children's books to the hospital, which caters for patients from birth to teenagers.

Stella said: "The aim of the Noah's Ark Appeal is to ensure that the hospital has the best resources available so that the children in Wales receive the best care from world-class medical teams, using the most up to date equipment.

"Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research funds ground -break research into treatments and cures for all blood cancers."

## Rotary club sends Lloyd on outward bound course...



PICTURED: Rotary president Robert Davies presents a certificate to Lloyd Bastian at a Rotary meeting in The Old House in Llangynwyd.

EVERY year, Maesteg Rotary club sponsors a student to attend a youth leadership course at Dolygaer outdoor activity centre in the Brecon Beacons.

Activities at the centre include caving, abseiling, canoeing, map reading and this year's student who successfully completed the course was Lloyd Bastian, a pupil of Maesteg Comprehensive School.

Partnered by Mr Flint's son Tom, a 7lb claiming jockey, Patsy Cline romped home a 13 lengths winner. Aberthyn's Tim Vaughan also had something to smile about as his Next Exit, ridden by Richard Johnson, landed the

## COURT HEARS OF VIOLENCE IN A BAR Royal Navy man escapes jail after headbutt attack

A MEMBER of the Royal Navy who served in the Iraq conflict, has been jailed for 32 weeks, suspended for two years, for attacking a man in a bar in Market Street, Barry.

Ross Eason, 29, of Westwood Rise, Barry, had been convicted by Cardiff Magistrates of causing actual bodily harm and had been committed to the Crown Court for sentence.

Eason was also made subject to a supervision order for a year and to carry out 180 hours unpaid work.

In addition, he was made subject to a 16-week curfew from 9pm to 6am, and to be electronically tagged.

Eason was also ordered to pay his victim, Wesley Braithwaite, £600 compensation.

Said Judge Philip Richards: "This was unlawful violence in licensed premises started by you.

### Report by AJ SICLUNA

"I accept you were not responsible for all the blows inflicted on Mr Braithwaite, and it is right to say you have made a positive contribution to society."

But, he added, Eason was involved in a disgraceful incident and used his head as a weapon.

Prosecutor David Pugh said that on April 21, Mr Braithwaite was in the bar with friends and family celebrating his brother's stag night.

During the evening, some members of Sully Sports RFC arrived to celebrate the end of the season.

At one point, Mr Braithwaite went to look for members of his party and spotted some of the rugby team.

One of them said: "I'll ..... kill you. What are you looking at?"

This was not the defendant, but soon afterwards, after that man

was restrained, Eason headbutted Mr Braithwaite, causing him to tumble down a flight of stairs, after which he was further assaulted by two others who have not been arrested.

When arrested, Eason admitted the assault, said he could not give a reason and that he was drunk.

His solicitor, Adam Sharpe, said alcohol appeared to be partly to blame.

"He played a part in a cowardly and nasty attack, acting on the spur of the moment without premeditation. He has made full admissions and was at a loss to explain his actions.

"It was somewhat out of character. He is not predisposed to wanton acts of violence. At the time, his state bordered on being paralytic and his partner is shocked and appalled.

"He will regret this for years to come."

He was said to have convictions for a public order matter and being drunk and disorderly.

## St Clare's pupils celebrate A-Levels



'Hard work, dedication and perseverance' were rewarded with success.

RIGHT: Owen Skelton and Greg Parker

ST CLARE'S students carried on the Porthcawl school's tradition of strong results with a 98 per cent overall pass rate, with 55 per cent of all results in the grades A\*-B range, with over a third of pupils achieving A\* or A.

Particular congratulations went to top-scoring



Young Min Song and Owen Skelton who scored a full set of A\*s and As, closely followed by Greg Parker who achieved straight As.

Headteacher John Aguilar commented: "We're all extremely proud of our A-Level students as they have worked so very hard.

The results are directly attributable not only to the hard work, dedication and perseverance of the students themselves, but also to the quality of teaching delivered at St Clare's. "The students have given themselves a great head start in life and we're delighted to send them off to study at top Universities across Britain."

## PATSY CLINE WINS THE STRATFORD OPENER!

BRIDGEND'S John Flint saw his six-year-old mare Patsy Cline land the opening Tim Molony Mares Novice Hurdle at Stratford on Monday.

Partnered by Mr Flint's son Tom, a 7lb claiming jockey, Patsy Cline romped home a 13 lengths winner.

Aberthyn's Tim Vaughan also had something to smile about as his Next Exit, ridden by Richard Johnson, landed the

George Slack Novices Hurdle race.

And at Southwell, 24 hours earlier, Vaughan and Johnson teamed up to win with four-year-old Geminus, who was scoring for the second time on the bounce. BRIAN LEE



# Local choir's moment on prime-time US TV!



ABOVE: Choir members with Mrs Ann Romney.



ABOVE: Mrs Ann Romney is presented with an engraved Welsh slate.

GEM readers may recall that recently, a local choir was invited to sing for Mrs Ann Romney, the wife of the US Presidential candidate, Mitt Romney.

Mrs Romney was in Maesteg because she can trace her family back to the town, and she met a number of relatives who still live in the area.

She attended St

Cynwyds Church, Llangynwyd, where the local choir, Bois Goetre-Hen a'r Cylch, sang for her.

The choir sang some favourite hymns, some 'standards' from the male voice choir repertoire, and also some west coast rock – a medley of Eagles' songs!

The visit, including the choir's contribution, was later broadcast on network TV in America.

## 'Verily, the Word is on Twitter and Facebook'

by PHILIP IRWIN



Rev Roger Pitman.

A CLERGYMAN who has recently been appointed in Llangynwyd and the Garw Valley is planning to spread the Word of the 'Good Book' via Facebook.

The Rev Roger Pitman plans to embrace modern social media and tweet his message (including a thought for the day) – aiming in particular at younger people.

He told The GEM: "I believe that social media gives the church a unique opportunity, allowing us to make known the many things that go on – not just the worship, but charitable events and other works and projects that normally go unnoticed."

"The vast majority of social media users are in the age range of 18-40, an age group sadly lacking within the church community."

"Perhaps this is because they think that church is just about a service on Sunday and

then baptisms, weddings and funerals.

"All the information about these will be available of course, but also occasions such as concerts, remembrance days such as the World Baby and Infant Loss Day on October 15, the annual visit of the children of Chernobyl and events supporting local charities."

"One which we are hoping to host next summer will be a teddy bear parachute jump

from the tower of St Cein's, perhaps with a small fete to accompany it."

He continued: "The church can also be someone who will listen in confidence when people need to talk about the difficult things in life."

"Again, social media often fulfils this need with families or friends, but there are times when a confidential chat with someone outside your social circle is useful – just to get things out of your system."

"This can be arranged, or even take place, via these websites and through other more direct contact."

"In today's world, we need to be where people are and where people are is often on their mobile phone, tablet or home PC using the internet and social media to organise and run their lives."

"I see this as not the only, but a very important part, of where the church should be also. Still keeping the personal and direct ministries it has always exercised, but also boldly stepping into the 21st century as well."

"The difficult part as always is getting known on these sites and so if anyone would like to join us and 'Like' the parish Facebook website and then share it with their friends it can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/LGVParish>

"Also, my Twitter feed on, which I give bible verses and sometimes a thought for the day, can be found at <https://twitter.com/revrogerpitman> with the main parish website [www.lgv-parish.org](http://www.lgv-parish.org)

"Once people start joining us and making our online presence known by sharing with others, we hope it will become a hub for all our parish information and a resource for the whole of the valley."

## Resident artists see the big picture!



A colourful interpretation of the Pavilion.



THE COMPLETED BIG PICTURE.

HUNDREDS of local residents and visitors used their artistic talents to create a huge picture of Porthcawl at the Grand Pavilion recently.

The free drop-in art workshops encouraged individuals to share their vision of the town throughout – from quick sketches to detailed pictures.

As part of the 80th birthday celebrations at the Pavilion, the venue was host to a week-long family workshop to create 'The Big Picture'.

The annual art and photography exhibition has this year been themed around 'celebration', featuring special memories, friends, holidays, and in the case of The Big Picture, celebrating Porthcawl.

The workshop was run from

August 13-17 by local artist Lesley Dearn, and it began with a blank canvas; 21 feet wide by seven feet tall.

Local residents, of all ages and abilities, contributed pieces of artwork and photography of their favourite places – from the fair to parks and, of course, the beach, to create the unique portrait.

A spokesperson said: "Filling this large canvas with colour and imagination has delighted its participants, who have enjoyed the opportunity of working, both individually and as part of groups, to create their personal depiction of the area."

"Throughout the week, many returned to add more and to see what others had added alongside their own interpretations."

More than 350 people took part.

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To register you will need: Registration with the GTCW or have CACHE level 1-4 or a degree and have a minimum of 8 months experience with children in a classroom setting within the last 4 years.

To arrange a local interview call 029 2049 4560

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# THE GRAND PAVILION, PORTHCAWL celebrates 80th anniversary (1932-2012)

by  
**KEITH E MORGAN**

LOCAL historian Keith E Morgan, following on from last week's article about the 80th anniversary of the Grand Pavilion, looks back at 1932, when it was opened. THE building of the Grand Pavilion was the brainchild of Coun Mabley.

Even though it had taken a lot to convince his fellow councillors, he had eventually been able to unite them in supporting a scheme to erect the edifice.

**RIGHT:** Coun Russell Mabley, JP, chairman of Porthcawl Urban District Council, together with Mrs Gladys Mabley, cutting the ribbon to perform the official opening ceremony of the Grand Pavilion on Monday, August 8, 1932.

**BELOW:** An inaugural dinner and dance was held during the evening of August 8, 1932, to celebrate the opening of the Grand Pavilion.



Before officially opening the Grand Pavilion on August 8, 1932, Coun Russell Mabley JP, called upon Mrs JH Pearson, Commandant of the Porthcawl Detachment of the Red Cross, to unveil the two-faced clock situated atop the front façade of the building. Supplied by H Clare, Jeweller of John Street, Porthcawl, and known as the Queen Alexandra Memorial Clock, it had been erected by public subscription.



## Part 2 – THE OFFICIAL OPENING



ABOVE: More than 500 guests attended the official banquet that was held in the Esplanade Hotel, at which Coun Russell Mabley JP, presided. The Grand Pavilion was floodlit for the inaugural ball which followed – an event enjoyed by more than 400 dancers.



ABOVE: Coun Russell Mabley, JP, and Mrs Gladys Mabley, seated centre with their son Vivian at their feet, and surrounded by the many dignitaries who attended the opening ceremony of the Grand Pavilion.



**RIGHT:** The gold plated key bearing the following inscription: "Presented to Councillor Russell Mabley JP, by Mr S C. Taverne on the Occasion of His Opening The Pavilion, Aug 8, 1932"



**RIGHT:** One of the two bronze plaques unveiled by Coun Russell Mabley JP, to commemorate the opening of the Grand Pavilion. These plaques are now mounted on either side of the exit doors at the rear of the auditorium.



Photo by MALVINA

On behalf of Miss Patricia Mabley, daughter of the late Coun. Russell Mabley JP, the gold plated key used to officially open the Grand Pavilion, together with other items belonging to Coun Mabley, were presented to John David, chairman of the Porthcawl Museum & Historical Society, by Jan Adkins, general manager of the Grand Pavilion, and author, Keith E. Morgan.

## Who wants to build what and where?

- Brains Ltd – The Red Dragon, Litchard Hill, Litchard, Bridgend – Crown lift trees and removal of limb.
- Concept sign and display – Waterton Retail Park, Waterton Road, Bridgend – One double-sided tenant directory and one wrap around panel with illumination.
- Mr Jeremy Griffiths – 4 Linnett Way, Brackla – Trim trees by approximately 25 per cent.
- Mr Steven Floyd – 63 Highfield Place, Sarn – Crown reduce 1 x ash and 1 x oak tree.
- Mr Dylan Phillips – 4 Meadow Croft/Tyddyn Gwaun, Laleston, Bridgend – Fell large ash tree to rear.
- Mr Stan Williams – 2 Coed Parc Court, Bridgend – Fell 3 x sycamore trees and plant replacement trees.
- Miss R Kinsella – Rear 10, Pen-y-Fai Road, Aberkenfig – Proposed development of two no garages to rear of 10/12 Pen y Fai Road (amended description).
- Mr and Mrs James – 5 Whitehart Cottages, Llangynwyd, Maesteg – Amended cat slide roof to rear and new window to first floor front elevation amendment to P/11/132/FUL.
- Mr and Mrs Evans – 4 St Michaels Road, Porthcawl – Loft conversion with roof extension to side and rear.
- Archbishop McGrath School – Bramble Close, Brackla – Install of solar photovoltaic modules to pitched roof of school building.
- St Marys RC Primary School – front and rear walls and rebuild.
- Llangewydd Road, Bridgend – Install of solar photovoltaic modules to flat roof areas of school building.
- Mr and Mrs C Hanna – 1 Jubilee Gardens, Porthcawl – Extend existing front bay window and extend existing rear dormer bathroom.
- Mr J Fussell – Bryn Llynfi, 55 Neath Road, Maesteg – Include land into curtilage and construct large garage with first floor store, gym and necessary retaining walls.
- Mr P A Williams – 28 Cae Canol, Porthcawl – Demolish existing rear extension and conservatory and construct single storey rear orangery extension.
- Mr Phillip George – 62 Commercial Street, Kenfig – PV installation to front roof of no. 62 and extension and roof enlargement to rear coach house.
- HD Limited – The Toll House, 1 Derwen Road, Bridgend – Remove central bay of
- front and rear walls and rebuild.
- Mrs C Wines – 7 Heol-y-Llwyni, Garth, Maesteg – Provide a ramped access to front elevation.
- Mr M Cuthbertson – 14 Heol Panddy, Llangenor – Single storey shower room extension, new step to front elevation with incline wheelchair lift.
- Mrs J D Pope – 23 Onslow Terrace, Brynmynyn – Single storey extension to provide shower room.
- L Parslow – Land at old tin works, Bedford Road, Cefn Cribwr – Steel/timber storage shed.
- Mrs C Mills – Bryn Awel, 71 High Street, Laleston – Take 4ft of grass verge away at kerb to make entrance wider.
- Mrs C Mills – 71 High Street, Laleston – Take 4ft of grass verge away at kerb to make entrance wider.
- Ms E Hopkins – Ty'r Adar, Ystrad Waun, Pencoe – Provide a dormer window to rear elevation.
- Mr Paul Raikes – 13 Ysbryd y Coed, Cavendish Park, Penyfa – Detached three-bedroom dwelling.
- Mrs Beryl Reed – Greensleeves, Penyfa, Bridgend – Dormer extension to landing area.
- Mr Stephen Jones – 2 Heol Cambrensis, Pyle – First floor side and single storey rear extensions.



# YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS

**New comprehensive school**  
THE school currently being constructed adjacent to Ynysawdre Comprehensive, to be known as 'Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwin' the new 'gateway to the valleys' school, will replace the existing Ogmore and Ynysawdre comprehensives.

The name of the school has been chosen by the existing pupils at both schools, and it is intended to serve as a community hub giving residents access to a wide range of resources.

On schedule to open in 2013, the design for the new school has received a five-star 'outstanding' rating from sustainable building specialists BREEAM.

It incorporates low and zero carbon technologies, a carbon-neutral biomass boiler, a solar hot water system, photovoltaic panels and rainwater harvesting facilities.

Excess electricity generated by a combined heat and power system at the nearby Ynysawdre pool and fitness centre will also be channelled into the school.

It has received £26 million of funding from the Welsh Government and £13 million from Bridgend County Borough Council (CBCB).

## Mining disaster

I WONDER how many readers of this column are aware that one of the largest mining disasters in the south Wales coalfields occurred at the Parc Slip coal drift mine, Aberkenfig.

The mine began production in 1864, and at the time of the disaster was owned by North's Navigation Company.

In the early 1890s, a workforce of men and boys numbering less than 200 was producing 300 tons of coal a day from two faces.

On August 26, 1892, there were 146 men and boys in the mine. At 8.20am, there was a massive explosion.

There were two survivors in a pumping station 60 metres inside the mine. They had heard the explosion and threw themselves on the ground and the flames passed over them.

At first, it was believed that they were the only survivors. Because of the discovery of afterdamp, the rescuers had to restore ventilation.

At 6am the following morning, when fresh air was circulating, the rescuers began a search for survivors. They were

## NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: **CLIVE MITCHELL**

1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ

TEL: 01656 725399

email: tynycoed1@yahoo.co.uk



Local artist Jim Hayes with his painting, based on the Parc Slip mining disaster. Jim is a member of Tondy Art Society.

about to give up when four survivors appeared out of the darkness, and they directed the rescuers further into the mine where others were found alive.

By 4pm, in the afternoon they had brought out a total of 43 miners alive. The final death toll was 112 men and boys. Thirty nine miners survived the disaster, 14 of them being led out by 62-year-old William Richards.

Nicknamed 'Y Dderwin' (The Oak), he received the Victoria medal for his judgement and courage. He died in 1898 and is buried in Coity churchyard.

One family, the Lyddons, had eight members working in the mine on that fateful day, and only two survived.

In the disaster there were a number of boys who nowadays who would still be at school, one 13-year-old, two 14, and six at 15.

It was two months after the explosion that the last body was recovered. The mine closed in 1904.

On the site of the mine there is now a monument consisting of one 112 stones to represent each of the miners. The cost in lives should be remembered as the Industrial Revolution is part of our heritage.

**Ladies choir**  
**COR Merched Cwm Llynfi** (Llynfi Valley Ladies Choir) had two engagements in recent weeks.

It was a lovely wedding. The bride wore a gorgeous dress, and the bridegroom, best man and others were resplendent in Welsh kilts. The bride's aunt, Jacqui Summers, is a member of the choir and she joined with the choir to sing the choral rendi-

tions, dressed in her splendid outfit.

It was a happy event and the choir were privileged to be part of it.

The choir also performed in a concert for the residents in the sheltered housing accommodation in Kenfig Hill. Several of the chorists live in the area and were pleased to be able to provide entertainment to members of their community.

The event was an enormous success and the residents have asked if the choir can put on another concert at Christmas.

The choir under its musical director Paul Deenil-Bradley with accompanist Laura Smith, is rehearsing twice a week for a forthcoming tour in Holland, and will be performing in a pre-tour concert at Our Lady and St Patricks Catholic Church Maesteg on October 5.

**Voice**  
**A PROJECT organised ten years ago to give volunteering opportunities in the community to encourage disabled adults with learning difficulties to assist vulnerable people in the community, it operates from the Trinity care club, which is based in Trinity Church, Portcawl.**

It is a shopping service provided by these adults to reverse the trend of always requiring support themselves, by helping others. At present, the club consists of a team of six volunteers supported by a paid project worker.

A house bound person will write a shopping list and a volunteer visits them on Monday morning and collects the list, does their shop-

ping and, if required, will put the goods in the storage spaces for the resident to use.

This not only provides an essential service to the person who is house bound, but provides them with a valuable weekly contact.

Voice is currently looking for more people to receive this service and would like to hear from anyone who would benefit. It is completely free.

The clients should be living in the Portcawl area and the shopping is done in the Co-operative store and Pharmacy.

For more information, telephone 01656 782104 or visit the website [info@trinitycare-and-support.co.uk](http://info@trinitycare-and-support.co.uk).

**Maesteg U3A**  
**THERE is no meeting in August, but there is still an opportunity for members and friends to book a seat on the coach trip to Lacock National Trust village on September 5.**

Lacock first became important in the Middle Ages when a planned village was established for the estate workers of the abbey in the 13th Century. It prospered because of its position on the route between Marlborough and Bristol. With its many inns, it thrived as a staging post until the mid-18th Century.

From then, the village has stood still. The lack of development was mainly due to the Talbot family who owned the village. They ensured that no railway lines came near the village and thus the industrial revolution passed Lacock by.

The U3A is also pleased to offer on a first come basis a place for any retired resident in the Maesteg area to

join them. The cost will be £5 for the transport. The coach will be leaving Maesteg car park at 8.30am. Please contact Jane on 01656 736871 to reserve a place.

**Ogmore choir**  
**THE Ogmore Valley male voice choir has over recent weeks provided a musical service to help local communities.**

Its musical director Eira Paskin originates from Blaengwynfi and every summer the choir performs in a concert to entertain the residents of that area when they hold its summer fete. It is normally held outdoors, but because of heavy rainfall this year, it was held in the community hall.

The choir also performed in a concert in Maesteg Park to raise money for LATCH, the Welsh children's cancer charity.

On Saturday, September 15 at 7pm, the choir will be performing in its 30th annual concert at Canolfan Bethlehem Centre, Commercial Street, Ogmore Vale, to raise money to support Y Bont, Ewenny Road, Bridgend, which provides care and support to disabled children and their families.

Tickets can be obtained from any choir member or John on 01656 841429.

**New counselling service**  
**NEW Pathways is currently launching a service for young people living in Bridgend county borough.**

As part of the Families First project, it is now offering a comprehensive free counselling service for people aged 15-25 provided by a qualified team of counsellors.

It is acknowledged that life, particularly for youngsters, often presents many challenges that are difficult to face, where a welcome listening ear can sometimes really help.

New Pathways offers face to face counselling at its office in Bridgend, as well as counselling and support over the telephone or via Skype.

The office is open Monday to Friday 12pm-8pm and on Saturdays 11am-4.30pm. Telephone 01656 750115 or 08446933114 (which is free from most land-lines) or alternatively email [bridgendproject@newpathways.org.uk](mailto:bridgendproject@newpathways.org.uk).

**Shout**  
**BRIDGEND county-wide initiative SHOUT is the voice for older people in the community and the Kenfig Hill group, made up of people over 50, are holding their next meeting in the Barnyard, Pyle Cross on Tuesday August 28 between 2pm and 4pm.**

There is a mystery speaker on this occasion. For further information, contact Stan Rumble on 01656 741203.

**Neighbourhood Watch**  
**THERE have been a number of vehicle crimes and burglaries in the Cornelly areas recently. The Neighbourhood Police Team are advising people to make sure that they lock windows and doors and leave nothing in sight as it take just a few seconds to commit such crimes.**

**Speed checks** – Following complaints about speeding vehicles, PCSOs Nerys Lloyd and Richard Couch performed a speed operation in Pisgah Street and Marshfield Avenue. They reported that the results were very encouraging.

Out of 123 vehicles checked in Pisgah Street, 16 were clocked going over 35 mph, and out of 37 checked in Marshfield Avenue none were caught going over 35 mph.

Vehicles caught speeding were issued with a warning letter and some safety advice leaflets on speeding.

If you have any issues you would like to discuss with the NPT ring PCSO Jon Howe on 07805 301491 or Nerys Lloyd on 07805 301493.

**Llys Ton**  
**LLYS TON have again organised some exciting evenings at the complex: September 5 at 7pm, they have a social evening when the entertainment will be provided by a Ukulele Band.**

Cost of entry is £3 (which includes a drink). Everyone is invited to what promises to be a great evening, as the atmosphere in this new care facility is superb.

For further information of activities at Llys Ton, which is located in Waunbant Road, Kenfig Hill, ring 01656 745666.



## LOCAL NEWS from KENFIG HILL AND PYLE

by **Richard Sims**

Telephone: 01656 746840

Mobile: 07802 439679

E-Mail: [richardsims@talktalk.net](mailto:richardsims@talktalk.net)

**Wellbeing Centre**  
**ACTIVITIES being held by the Mental Health Matters, Wales at the Talbot Community Centre, Prince Road, Kenfig Hill on Wednesday, August 29, include arts and crafts from 1.30pm to 2.30pm; bingo from 2.30pm to 3.30pm; and the reading group from 3pm to 4pm. There will also be a social afternoon from 1pm to 5pm.**

**PACT meeting**  
**THE next PACT meeting will be held in Pyle Life Centre on Thursday September 6 at 6.30pm.**

This gives you the chance to meet your local Neighbourhood Policing team to discuss

any issues you may have such as: speeding in your road, inconsiderate parking and anti-social behaviour.

**Boogie Beat**  
**BOOGIE BEAT is coming to the Talbot Community Centre in September – it is a unique group that incorporates music, dance and singing.**

Pre-school classes, for children from six months to five years old, have dance themes based on traditional fairy tales and nursery rhymes using all their own music and illustrations.

Classes will be held in the Talbot Community Centre, located in Prince Road, Kenfig Hill every Thursday from 11am to 11.45am, starting on September 6, and each Wednesday in Nottage Scouts Hall from 10am to 10.45am, from September 5.

For details, ring Nicky Greenway on 07789 688447.

## A council wages war on potholes

**THERE is nothing local motorists hate more than the dreaded pothole – and the shudder through their car's suspension as it hits a damaged section of road.**

In recent years, The Glamorgan GEM has received countless letters from readers highlighting the deterioration of roads throughout the area.

Now, the neighbouring Vale Council says it plans to launch a 'Big Fill' campaign which it hopes will begin to eradicate the scourge of potholes.

Residents of particular areas in the Vale will be given the chance to report rogue potholes where they live, and have them dealt with over weekends.

The Vale Council Leader, Coun Neil Moore told The GEM that the idea would be to leaflet people and give them the chance to report damage to their local roads.

He explained: "The campaign will involve informing people with a flyer that we are coming to their area on a certain weekend.

"They can advise us of potholes that need to be dealt with.

"We will be concentrating on specific areas in wards, rather than a

whole ward."

Coun Moore emphasised that there may be certain 'road works' which might be reported which could not be dealt with by council workers over the limited period of a weekend, but council workers would endeavour to resolve whatever was practical.

Council workers will also knock on residents' doors in the chosen area to find out whether people are concerned about damage to nearby roads.

The council will then be able to judge whether leafleting or a direct conversation is the best method of getting information from local people.

A Bridgend County Borough Council spokesman said that residents in its area could report any problems by phone or email.

He said: "While the council carries out regular road inspections to target defects before they develop into a problem, residents can also report potholes and other highways issues by calling (01656) 642541 or emailing [custcare@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:custcare@bridgend.gov.uk)."



# VALE GETS SET TO HOST INTERNATIONAL SHEEPDOG TRIALS

THE Olympics may be over in London, but come September in the Vale, there will be a chance to see a different set of fine athletes going through their paces!

The International Sheepdog Trials, the biggest event of its kind in the world, takes place in Bonvilston over three days from September 6, and involves around 80 of the finest sheepdogs from the four home countries of the UK –

and their splendid handlers! Thousands of visitors from all over the world are expected to attend.

The £100,000 three-day event at Redlands Farm will feature the top 15 dogs from each of the four home nations, plus reserves.

There will also be a young handler competition and an International Brace Championship.

This year's event features a food and country festival and has Welsh Government First Minister Carwyn Jones as president.

The impressive list of sponsors includes the Welsh Government, the Vale Council, Tesco, and Gilbertson and Page. The three-day spectacle will culminate with the crowning of a new supreme champion.

The Welsh team will be led by Pentrefaelas farmer Arthur Roberts and his dog, Chip. Arthur has only missed one international since 1974, when he was best man at a friend's wedding.

He started trialling at the age of 16 and is continuing a family tradition. He is the third generation of his family

to compete, since his father and grandfather were triallers, with his own son, Eilir, following on, and daughter Catrin, a psychology lecturer, also very involved.

Arthur added that Catrin brings the pups on when her work as a psychology lecturer with Coleg Meirion Dwyfor, Dolgellau, allows; and he feels that psychology is an important element of working with the dogs, and in understanding what motivates and pleases them.

He said: "My father, Merddin Roberts, judged the Welsh National twice and he passed on the skill to me. It's in the blood on both sides, though, as an uncle on my mother's side – Price Evans of Betws Gwerfyl Goch – trialled a lot."

"My son is also very interested. It was he who brought me back into it because he started trialling three or four years ago."

"I was in the Welsh team last year, with a different dog, Bill. This year I'll be with Chip. He's four years old, but not that experienced."

He's been a slow developer.

"It's an honour to lead Wales, and unexpected. It's a combination of having the right dog and things working in our favour. There is an element of good fortune for everything to come together."

"It's very enjoyable and I'm really looking forward to it and to visiting the Vale."

He added: "I most definitely wouldn't be able to manage my sheep without dogs. I depend on them."

**NOTE:** The original objective of the International Sheep Dog Society (ISDS) is to secure the better management of stock by improving the shepherd's dog remains.

The society was founded in 1906 in Haddington, East Lothian (Scotland), with the intention of stimulating interest in the shepherd and his/her calling. The International Sheep Dog Trial has been held annually since 1906, with the exception of the war years (1915-1918 and 1939-1945), and 2001 (Foot and Mouth Disease).

## Half-Taff challenge

CYCLING 26 miles would obviously be a mere warm-up for people like Bradley Wiggins and others who take part in this currently popular sport – but for those who have only recently been inspired by the success of Team GB, it provides a very good opportunity to try it out.

The Ty Hafan Half-Taff challenge, taking place on Sunday, September 2, is a comparatively gentle route, much of it off-road, starting at Rhydyccar Leisure Centre in Merthyr Tydfil and passing through some beautiful countryside and the leafy suburbs of Cardiff before finishing in the Bay.

It's the perfect opportunity to join your friends, family or work colleagues to either set yourselves a challenge to achieve a personal best time to complete the route, or just simply take it easier and enjoy the surroundings.

Last year, more than 130 cyclists took on the challenge and arrived in Cardiff Bay to a heroes' welcome.

Sali Thomas from Ty Hafan said: "The Taff Trail Cycle Challenge is always a popular event and the shorter route,



ABOVE: A great day out...

starting from Merthyr, gives a chance for families or those who take cycling less seriously to take part."

To sign up, visit: [www.thetafftrail.co.uk](http://www.thetafftrail.co.uk), or call 02920 672060.

Registration for the event is £40 per team with each team raising a minimum of £250 in sponsorship, which will ensure Ty Hafan continues to provide care and support to the young-

sters and their families who access its services. Team members must be over 13 years old and any cyclists who are under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Ty Hafan is also looking for volunteers to help out at the event by being a marshal. If you are interested in getting involved then you can find out more using the same contact details.

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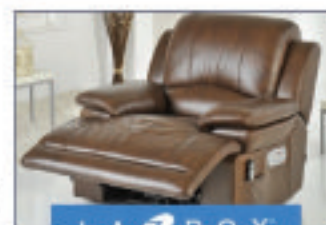
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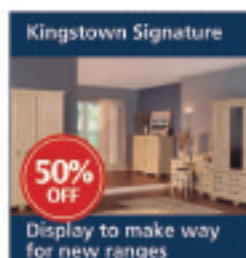


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## Police witness appeal on fatal road collision

SOUTH WALES POLICE investigating a fatal road traffic collision, which occurred at approximately 11.55am on August 13 on the A4064 road, at the square in Llangineir, Bridgend, are continuing to appeal for witnesses.

Officers are asking anyone who may have seen the silver coloured 55 registration Renault Clio with two male occupants travel down the Garw Valley from Blaengarw

through Pontycymer and into Llangineir shortly before 12 noon on that day to contact them.

One person died in the collision and has been named as 41-year-old Mr Mark David, from Aberkenfig.

Witnesses to the collision, or anyone who witnessed the driving of the silver 55-plate Renault Clio, is asked to contact the Roads Policing Unit on 101, or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

## CAR THIEF GOES TO PRISON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

His counsel, Jeremy Jenkins, said: "A report indicates he is at risk of reoffending and causing serious harm."

"He is somewhat immature. He showed remorse."

Judge Eleri Rhys said Pinches understood the impact of what he did had had a devastating effect on Mr Williams, who no longer drives.

"You clearly have difficulties controlling your emotions," she said.

## Be a beach buddy and join coastal clean-up!



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## Kitten crisis overwhelming local animal charity

MAESTEG Animal Welfare Society, which already has 50 adult cats at its two catteries, is being inundated with requests to take in litters of kittens.

"We have taken in two litters in the past

two days, but there are others that we cannot accommodate, because we simply do not have the room," said co-ordinator Maureen Edwards. "It is the worst crisis in kittens I have known in the 28 years that I have been running this charity."

"We are facing the very real possibility of kittens being abandoned to the wild and left to starve."

"We would normally be able to take them all for re-homing, but the number of people coming forward to take kittens and cats has dropped considerably."

"They are just not shifting. We used to have a waiting list of people wanting kittens but not any more."

Mrs Edwards is begging GEM readers to come forward either to act as foster carers until permanent homes can be found or to give homes themselves to these unwanted kittens.

Contact Jan Brady on 01656 721496.

## GUILD'S MEETING

THE next meeting of the Glamorgan Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers is on Thursday, September 13 in Kynance Hall, Dinas Powys, and starts at 7.30pm.

There will be a talk by Elen Phillips, a general introduction to the costume and textile collection at St Fagans. Members £2, visitors £5.

For further details, telephone Kirsten Gable on 01443 650336 or email kirstengable@gmail.com.

FROM syringes to ceramics, plasters to panty liners, fishing line to fence posts and plastics to pushbikes – it's all been found on Welsh beaches, and the Marine Conservation Society (MCS), the UK charity dedicated to protecting our seas, shores and wildlife, says it needs beach lovers across Wales to help get the issue on the political agenda.

This year's 'MCS Beachwatch Big Weekend' takes place on September 14-17, and will involve hundreds of volunteers taking to the beaches around the Welsh coast.

During the event, volunteer litter pickers will clean up and record the rubbish they find, as part of the International Coastal Cleanup, which takes place in more than 100 countries and regions worldwide.

The data collected will help MCS shape its beach litter campaign in Wales and keep up pressure on the Welsh Government to act to reduce the amount of rubbish that blights Welsh beaches.

"As a charity we rely heavily on volunteer support either at events

or financially," says MCS Wales Programme Manager, Gill Bell. "Beachwatch is a great way for our supporters to get hands on and really make a difference."

"We'd like to see more people out on beaches this year and more beaches cleaned."

"The Olympics seem to have slowed down the registration of both beach organisers and volunteers, now it's all over we're urging people to sign up and make this the biggest and best year

for Beachwatch in Wales."

"However, if people can't make it to a beach they can always donate or become a member to ensure this type of event continues and we can all do our bit to reduce beach litter."

To get involved in Beachwatch Big Weekend 2012, and be part of the biggest and most influential fight against marine litter in the UK, visit: www.mcsuk.org/beach-watch

or call: 01989 566017.

## Pyle robbery: man charged

POLICE in Bridgend have arrested and charged a 42-year-old man, after an elderly woman was robbed at the Ffald Road Shopping Centre, Pyle, on Monday (August 20).

The incident occurred near the Co-operative store at about 3pm, when the 78-year-old woman was knocked to the floor and her handbag was snatched.

The man then made off in the victim's vehicle, which was parked nearby, after taking the keys from the stolen bag, according to police.

Police said the elderly woman was taken to hospital by ambulance where she remained in a serious but stable condition. Officers had arrested a man and recovered the stolen vehicle in Bridgend.

Detective Inspector David Rees, from Bridgend CID said: "I would like to reassure the communities of Bridgend borough that incidents of this nature are very rare."

As The GEM went to press yesterday (Wednesday) police said a 42-year-old man was due to appear at Bridgend Remand Court, charged with robbery, theft of a motor vehicle and grievous bodily harm.

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# 'Hard graft' is rewarded at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg



LEFT to RIGHT – Morgan Fogg, Matthew Gupta, Caleb Rowlands and Einan Scott.



LEFT to RIGHT – Bronwen Harries (two As, B), Robbie Donovan (two Bs, C) and Eleni Morus (two As, B). All achieved their Welsh Bacc and are off to their first choice universities.



Mia Sands (left) and Siwan Clark (right) (two A\*s, two As). Siwan is now Oxford bound.

**THERE** were smiles all around at Ysgol Bro Morgannwg on August 16 as pupils, staff and parents were once more able to celebrate an excellent set of A-Level results.

A spokeswoman said: "We are delighted that 83 per cent of the grades are C or above, with 46 per cent being A or A\*."

"Leading a group of nine pupils who attained straight A\* and A grades are Rhys George from Penarth (three A\* grades and the Welsh Bacc), who will study medicine at Southampton, and Oxford-bound Siwan Clark, also from Penarth, who attained two A\* and two A grades.

"As we applaud our highest achievers, we are very pleased that all pupils have achieved their potential and that their hard graft has been rewarded."

"Pupils have excelled in traditional academic subjects and also in vocational qualifications."

"The Welsh Bacc continues to be a resounding success, with each pupil benefiting from developing an array of skills."

"Congratulations go to all pupils and staff, and we wish the pupils every success in the future as they embark on careers, or further their education at universities and colleges far and wide."



Bethan Parker (left) and Chloe Chick (right).



LEFT to RIGHT – Molly Jenkins, Jocelyn Jeffery, Natalie Evans, Bethan Williams, Rachel Pursall and Bethan Pursall – all achieved three A Levels A\*-C and the Welsh Bacc.



Harriet Vaughan (left, A\*, two As) and Nel Roberts (right, two As, C).



LEFT to RIGHT – Zak Deere (two As, B), Rhys George (three A\*s), Oliver Harrison (three As) and Richard Pilcher (three As). All achieved their Welsh Bacc and are off to study medicine.

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## Local boy tackles Brecon Beacons in wheelchair to earn DoE award

by LEIGH GRUFFYDD SANDERS



James Yorke-Wade, accompanied by friends from the Barry air cadets, tackling a 32km trek over the Brecon Beacons in his unadapted wheelchair towards his Duke of Edinburgh gold award.

FOR most people, completing the physical aspect of the Duke of Edinburgh award is a tough task, but Flemingstone resident James Yorke-Wade is showing others just how to do it, as he completes his gold award.

The 25-year-old former Ysgol Sant Curig, Barry, pupil has cerebral palsy, but that hasn't stopped him tackling the 32km trek over the Brecon Beacons – in his wheelchair – to add to his many other achievements.

Splitting the task over four days, James aimed to do eight km per day, usually taking eight hours to complete each session.

Accompanied by his friends from the Barry branch of the Air Cadets, he has excelled already, and managed 10km over four and a half hours last Sunday (August 19), with only a 30-minute break, to leave him ahead of schedule.

He now aims to finish his task over the weekend of September 1-2.

Sister Emily Yorke-Wade (20) told The GEM of the family's pride at James' achieve-

ments despite his limitations.

She said: "James is a very unique case, there are no words to describe him. He went through mainstream schools and speaks five languages (English, Welsh, German, French and Spanish), he can learn the basic greetings and numbers in an hour."

He graduated with a 2:1 in German and French from Swansea University and his studies haven't stopped there.

"He is taking a diploma in Spanish and was given one of the Harry Potter books in Spanish for Christmas."

"He is reading it already!"

He also watches French films with German subtitles underneath, or vice versa."

As well as cerebral palsy, James also suffers with hydrocephalus and incomplete lung capacity. Having spent a total of seven years of his life in the Great Ormond Street Hospital, he has had 30 operations (and counting) and undergoes regular botox on his legs to help straighten them.

His balance is also affected, and his wheelchair is not adapted in any way, making it even more difficult to complete his mountain trek.

He was also knocked back after catching pneumonia in December 2010 and moving in and out of hospital for six months, taking 18 months to fully recover.

Doctors told the family that he probably wouldn't be able to come home, and that even if he did, he would need an oxygen supply.

Yet he now finds himself as a civilian instructor for the Barry cadets, among his many other activities.

Emily continued: "James is absolutely amazing. My boyfriend, who is in the RAF, tried to propel his wheelchair up one of the hills in Flemingstone with his arms, and couldn't manage it, but James could."

And she hopes that James' time with the air cadets helps him to continue to progress in his social life.

She added: "The squadron leader, Jason Horton, always believed in James and pushes him to keep going."

"He just wants to be 'normal' and get a job, but he can't get a five-day-a-week job because of his illness. This will, hopefully, build his confidence."

**WORSHIP SERVICE**  
THE two churches of Bonvilston (St Mary's and Zoar) are holding a 'back to church – all age worship service', in the Reading Room, Bonvilston, on Sunday, September 9 (3pm-4pm). It will be led by Rev Adelaide Wheeler Cocks and Rev Dr Hmar Sangkhuma, and there will be music and refreshments. Everybody welcome. Contact 01446 781309 or 01446 781866.



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# Brynteg head is 'really pleased with this year's A-Level results'



**Magical music**  
A MAGICAL music concert in aid of Barnardo's Cymru will take place at The Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl, on Sunday, September 16, beginning at 7.30pm.

Music includes themes from The Dam Busters, James Bond, ET, Mack and Mabel, The Beatles, and many more. Tickets: £12 (concessions available), from the box office: 01656 815995 or from: [www.grandpavilion.co.uk](http://www.grandpavilion.co.uk)

THE headteacher of Brynteg Comprehensive School, Mr David Jenkins, told The GEM that he was really pleased with the A-Level results.

He said: "There were some really excellent results, and these reflect the hard work of pupils and staff."

## A TALE WITH A TWIST!

THE Berwyn Centre, Nantymoel, is welcoming theatre company Kepow to provide an afternoon of funny, spontaneous and high-energy comedy with 'Whose Story Is It Anyway' on Friday August 31 at 2pm.

Starring Kevin Tomlinson and Abi Hood, this original show will make both children and adults laugh through its clever use of audience suggestions, old folk tales, masks and puppetry to entertain and charm.

Kepow have produced 26 shows and won

numerous awards since formation in 1991, and 'Whose Story Is It Anyway' is described by Paramount Comedy Channel as: "One of the most enjoyable, feel-good shows around".

The performance is being put on through the Arts Council of Wales' Night Out scheme, which brings professional performances into community buildings at an affordable price.

Tickets for the event cost £3 or two time credits each. To book tickets, call 01656 754915.

ABOVE:  
Celebrating at Brynteg Comprehensive School were (left to right): Chong In Ra, off to study medicine at Bristol University after getting four A\*s; Joshua Slade (an A\*, A and B) who will be doing maths at Cardiff University; Reuben Fisher (three As and an A\*), who is going to Bath University to read physics; Josh Hill (A and two Bs), who will be doing chemical engineering at Sussex University; Nicole Mountjoy (three A\*s) who will be taking a teaching degree in Carmarthen; and Bethan Manley (three As) who will study zoology at Bristol University.

# Charity bike riders hope for big finish in Porthcawl

A GROUP of friends from the Porthcawl area are looking forward to a big welcome this Sunday (August 26) when they complete a charity ride around Wales, that will finish at the Atlantic Hotel at around 5pm.

The charity ride is in aid of the Welsh children's charity, LATCH, and for a charity that is aiming to raise enough cash to buy a holiday caravan.

Spokesman Simon Broomfield said: "We are raising money to buy a caravan at Trecco Bay so that children recovering from treatment can relax with their families at the seaside town we call home."

"We are aiming to raise over £10,000 so that the purchase of the caravan can be completed."

The riders have called the event the 'Four Point Challenge', as it is a bike ride that is going to cover approximately 400 miles and will be completed over four days.

Simon said: "On day one we start in Porthcawl and ride to Machynlleth, around 110 miles. On day two, we head north to Colwyn Bay, around 67 miles. This leg is shorter but we cycle through Snowdonia."

"On the third day we head to Knighton, around 112 miles, and on day four we head south and home to Porthcawl."

"None of the 10 riders are experienced, and most have done very little long distance riding."

"We all taking time out of our day jobs to take on this challenge and we will appreciate any support."

He added: "There will be an evening of entertainment at the Atlantic Hotel, starting at 5pm on August 26, with live music, a barbecue, games and plenty of activities to raise money for our charities."

## Gastro Alfresco winners

THE winners of our recent Gastro Alfresco competition were

Esme Spencer, Porthcawl; Pamela Bevington, Bridgend; Laura McGreevy, Llanmaes; Tracey Govier, Rhosce; and Mrs P Martin, Pontyclun.

Congratulations to you all, and keep reading for more great GEM competitions!

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along and give it a go –  
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well!"

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lor-made for beginners  
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two left feet) and we  
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ages."

Lynne added: "All  
former pupils are most  
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**Rachel Trusler.**

When Rachel gradu-  
ated from university,  
she found it extremely  
difficult to secure  
employment, and  
applied for many office-  
based vacancies without  
any success.

Rachel was feeling  
unhappy, dissatisfied  
and unsure of what to  
do next.

She came to Pitman  
Training after meeting  
Leanne, one of Pitman  
Training's friendly  
advisors at a careers  
fair. They chatted about  
becoming a PA and  
Rachel felt more con-  
fident about getting her  
career started and excit-  
ed about the future.

She soon started the

Executive PA Diploma  
and a few months into  
her training, was  
delighted to gain a new  
role as a marketing  
assistant with PA  
responsibilities.

The company Rachel  
joined, Actoris  
Developments, was  
extremely impressed  
with her high level of IT  
and secretarial skills.  
Rachel is continuing  
her professional devel-  
opment and really  
enjoys the flexible  
training as it's easy to  
fit around her work  
commitments.

She said: "After gain-  
ing a degree, I strug-  
gled to find a decent  
career. Since enrolling  
on the Executive P.A.  
Diploma with Pitman  
Training, many doors  
have opened up to me.  
"Skills learnt at  
Pitman Training such as  
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really stood me in good  
stead for the tasks  
which are involved on a  
day-to-day basis."

"Pitman Training  
gave me the chance to  
pick myself out of a job  
rut and really go after  
what I wanted.  
"Opportunities like  
'student of the month'  
were invaluable at inter-  
view; I feel this helped  
me to stand out from the  
crowd – a big thank you  
to all the team at Pitman  
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To arrange a local interview call 029 2049 4560

**Multi Award Winning Teaching Agency**

## Bridgend College celebrates record examination results

**B**RIDGEND College is  
thrilled to announce  
that 139 students have  
achieved grades equivalent to  
three A-Levels at grade A or  
above this year.

A college spokeswoman said:  
"This exceeds the college's personal  
best of 134 for the academic year  
2010/11."

"A total of 128 (34 per cent) stu-  
dents achieved triple distinction pro-  
files in their Level 3 Extended  
Diploma programme, with 38 stu-  
dents achieving an incredible  
D\*D\*D\* portfolio, the equivalent to  
three A\* grades at A level and worth  
a fantastic 420 UCAS points."

"In addition, eight students study-

ing the CACHE Level 3 Diploma in  
Childcare and Education achieved  
grade As, and three BTEC Level 3  
Foundation Diploma students in Art  
and Design also gained the highest  
award possible.

Mark Jones, the principal of  
Bridgend College, said: "The contin-  
ued growth in the number of students  
achieving the highest possible grades  
at level 3 is testament to the high  
quality teaching and learning offered  
across all of our academic areas."

"Our warmest congratulations to  
all of the students who, with these  
highly-recognised vocational quali-  
fications, can take the first step onto  
their chosen career path or can con-  
tinue their studies at Higher  
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# GCSE results this August?...

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# EDUCATION & TRAINING

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## Students reminded of their A-Level data protection rights

**T**HE Office of the Information Commissioners (ICO) has reminded students in Wales of their information rights concerning this year's A-Level results.

Under the Data Protection Act, students can see information held about them, such as a breakdown of their marks, by making a subject access request to the examination body.

Anne Jones, assistant commissioner for Wales,

said: "Results day can be an exciting time for many students; however, it can also be a time of great stress for those who don't get the marks they require."

"That is why we are reminding students that they have a right under the Data Protection Act to see information held about how their marks were arrived at, before deciding whether to re-sit an exam or pursue a particular subject at college or university."

"Having access to information – such as a breakdown of their overall mark and examiners' comments – may not lead to their grades being altered, but it could help them understand the process and make important decisions about their future."

"We are keen to provide advice to students on submitting their request and have published guidance on our

website. If examination bodies fail in their legal duty to respond, then students can bring a complaint to the ICO."

Under the Act, individuals have the right to request the information that an organisation holds about them – known as a subject access request. Once a request is received, an

organisation generally has 40 days to respond. In the case of exam results, exam bodies must respond within 40 days from the date the results were published, or within five months of the request being received – whichever of the two is the earliest.

The ICO's guidance – 'Individuals' rights of access to examination records' – outlines how people can access more general information about college or university policies or procedures.

This guidance can be found at: [http://www.ico.gov.uk/for\\_the\\_public/topic\\_specific\\_guides/schools/exam\\_results.aspx](http://www.ico.gov.uk/for_the_public/topic_specific_guides/schools/exam_results.aspx).

**A**S the GCSE results come out, it certainly seems like it's make or break time for south Wales students, as further study and career opportunities very much depend on exam outcomes.

It's fantastic news if

your child gets the results he or she needs, but the world can seem a pessimistic place for those who've missed their vital target grades, with re-sits now a further barrier to chosen college courses.

At this time, it's important to realise that though initially disappointing, this isn't always a bad thing: an extra year of study for

many means A-Levels are taken when the student is slightly more mature – and therefore more able to cope with the demands of higher-level courses.

It's vital that students approach re-sits with confidence and an assurance that great grades can be achieved – and a knowledge that a great future lies ahead!

Personal tutors can help re-build this confidence and work with students to focus knowledge on key facts and areas of learning, and can work on eliminating misunderstandings and 'bad habits' which may well have cost vital marks first time round.

Exam practice, reviewing papers and studying mark schemes, plus a 'back to basics' approach when dealing with particularly tricky topics, are just some of the things personal tutors can do to help!

Chris Williams

## Busy time for student helpline

**A** STUDENT advice service, the Exam Results Helpline (ERH), has handled thousands of calls since A-Level results day and is bracing for another surge on GCSE day today (Thursday).

The 40 experts who make up the helpline on 0808 100 8000, are a lifeline for students whose grades are higher or lower than expected, and need to rethink their futures.

The helpline is independent and free, and is funded by the Department for Education. It opened on August 16 and runs until August 25.

ERH advisors, who answered 11,000 calls last year, say most questions are about re-sits, re-marks, university or college courses, apprenticeships, NVQs, HNDs, diplomas, finding employment, setting up in business, moving away from home and gap years.

Each is fully trained with at least five years' experience as a professional careers advisor.

Calls are free from landlines but charges vary from mobile phones or other networks.

More information can be found on the ERH website: [www.uccas.com/examresults-helpline](http://www.uccas.com/examresults-helpline).

Careers advisor Sarah Bull said: "The main message we are giving to students is

that if they haven't or don't get the results they expected, don't get stressed."

"Get plenty of information by talking to us, your teachers, or school careers adviser and don't rush into anything."

"Take your time before deciding what to do next."

"It's particularly important that students get good advice about the range of options available to them after GCSEs."

"Taking A-levels is not for everyone."

"It may be that an apprenticeship or a BTEC is a much more suitable option – giving the opportunity to gain employability skills, achieve a qualification and potentially earn a wage at the same time."

"The bottom line is that each student must decide what is right for them."

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### Enrolment at Cardiff and Vale College

<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Friday 24<sup>th</sup> August</b> Come to this if you are: Full-time students already interviewed and offered places.*	<b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> August</b> Come to this if you are: Full-time students offered a reserve place* or part-time students who have already applied.
<b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> and Friday 31<sup>st</sup> August</b> Open enrolment on a first-come first-served basis, for any courses with spaces.*	<b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September</b> Higher Education enrolment.



Visit our website for info on where to enrol and how to find courses with spaces:  
[www.cavc.ac.uk/enrolment](http://www.cavc.ac.uk/enrolment)  
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\*except for Knowledge engineering students.



**YMRSTRU O AWST 23<sup>ain</sup>**

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<b>Dydd Iau a dydd Gwener Awst 30ain a 31ain</b> Ymrestru agored ar sail y cyntaf i'r ffaith... ar unrhyw gyrsiau sydd â lleoedd gwag.*	<b>Dydd Mawrth, Medi 4ydd</b> Ymrestru addysg uwch.



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\*acemstyffnwy'r perfformio Knowledge





# Back to School...

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## HELPING CHILDREN FOCUS ON A BRIGHT NEW FUTURE

**P**oor eyesight can have a significant effect on children's ability to learn and on their behaviour – yet often goes unrecognised by teachers, parents and by children

themselves. Over a million children will return to school with poor vision!

A free sight test may give every child the ability to see clearly, learn effectively and fulfill their career aspirations.

Up to one million children in the UK cur-

rently have an undetected vision problem. (Statistics provided by the Eyecare Trust and based on DCSF 2009 School Census 0-12 year olds).

Research shows that around 20 per cent of school-aged children have an undiagnosed vision problem – that's

one in five children. (Professor David Thomson, City University, London).

Over 90 per cent of children visit a dentist regularly, while only 53 per cent of children have ever had an eye examination. (Johnson & Johnson, Vision Care Survey 2009).

A total of 84 per cent of parents agree that improved vision would have a positive impact on their child's performance at school.

(Johnson & Johnson Vision Care Survey 2009).

At Jones & Jones, proper sight test is free for all children under the age of 16. Why not book an appointment for your children today?

For appointments, ring 01446 400015, or visit us online at [www.jonesandjones.org.uk](http://www.jonesandjones.org.uk).

## Ensuring your children have all they need on that first school day

**E**very child's worst nightmare is turning up to a new school on that first day and realising that they've left their PE kit or a vital piece of school uniform back at home.

Even worse, they might not have it at all. Every parent is currently rushing around, ensuring that their children have all the required essentials before the new school term starts at the beginning of September.

But while people are out and about making sure that they get the best deals when kitting children out, it's worth visiting local stockists right on their doorstep.

When looking for new school shoes for a child's ever-growing feet, Ogam Igam in Penarth, could be the answer to all your podiatric needs.

Situated at 5 Royal Buildings (just next to the train station), they

stock a range of quality brands and styles. You can also take advantage of their professional fitting service to ensure your child gets exactly the right comfort for trekking around their new surroundings searching for the science laboratories!

Their 'Foot in the Door' club offers you the chance of a five per cent credit return on purchases, and the chance to be entered into a prize draw for a £200 voucher to spend in store.

If their old pair needs patching up, why not head down to Frangoulis at 2 Windsor Arcade, Penarth, or 4 Thompson Street, Barry?

Here they undertake all types of shoe repairs.

Alternatively, they offer an expert key engraving service to ensure your child can access the family home on their return from school, while they also provide a full range of leather wallets and purses to keep their dinner money safe.

But school isn't just about the written word. With an increasing reliance on computers, TL Computer Services,

Wales, at 40 Holton Road, Barry, offer a full range of PCs and laptops, and also a full range of repairs and services on existing models.

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## RUCKLEYS – Barry's specialists in official school uniforms

**R**UCKLEYS, the uniform specialist in Barry, is going from strength-to-strength.

As well as stocking the usual school uniform basics, such as socks, trousers, skirts, pinafores, gym kits, cardigans, hair accessories and coats, they now stock a large proportion of local schools' official uniforms.

These schools include: St Helen's,

Sant Curig, Barry Island, Oakfield, Rhws, Barry Comprehensive and Barry sixth form and Cadroxton.

It has a changing room and is conveniently open seven days a week, also offering an easy-plan uniform club to help save for the back-to-school period.

As usual, its Start-rite shoes are proving popular, probably due to the fact that they are full leather, available in half sizes and with a width fitting too. There is also a schoolwear guarantee.

Call in now, Monday to Saturday, from 9.30am-5.30pm and on Sunday from 11am-3pm.

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# Ceremony puts Eisteddfod in touch with its ancient history



The procession, and the placing of the clay figures on the mound.

ONE event at this year's Eisteddfod at Llandow was designed to make a connection with the Vale's ancient history – 4,000 years ago, and well before the era traditionally celebrated at the cultural festival.

The event focused on Llandow and Llanmaes, and aimed to evoke the spirit of the early Bronze Age people who lived in the area.

Jackie Simpson, of Llanmaes Community Council told The GEM about the event and explained: "More than 4,000 years ago on sacred ground, events that celebrated rituals of life and death were played out in what is now the Vale of Glamorgan."

"We know this from the 1939/1940 archaeological excavations of Sir Cyril Fox, then director of the National Museum of Wales, who recorded early Bronze Age burial mounds on the site of the WWII airfield at Llandow."

"At Llanmaes, just 3 km away, archaeological fieldwork over the last decade has produced evidence of early Bronze Age burial, in addition to middle and late Bronze Age and Iron Age settlements, and also an Iron Age midden or rubbish mound."

"Irish-type cauldrons, French-type bronze axes, large quantities of pig bones and pottery have been identified, suggesting that this area attracted peoples from across Britain, Ireland and parts of Europe who gathered here to feast, share stories and celebrate their cultural identity."

She continued: "The Eisteddfod 2012 saw one such imaginative interpretation of history, in the form of a ceremony on a site just 20 metres from one of the



ABOVE: The burial mound.

sites excavated by Sir Cyril Fox.

"This direct link with our ancient past was organised by the Department of Archaeology & Numismatics, Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales in conjunction with Cadw to respectfully tell the story of the imagined histories of those no longer able to tell their own story."

"Using archaeological records, a small-scale version of an early Bronze Age mound was reconstructed within the perimeter of the Eisteddfod."

"Burial rituals were performed with rhythmic drumming, horns, dancing and chanting accompanying the burial procession."

"In an attempt by the people of Llanmaes to reach out to the past, clay figures, made earlier in the year at a village festival, were carefully placed in the burial mound, again accompanied by much ritual."

"This humble act confirmed across the millennia the link between a place and its people, people who experience the world very differently but with an enduring respect for our cultural past."

"From 4,000 years ago to the present day this place continues to be recognised as special and as sacred. The ancient gatherings and



ABOVE: Tim Fowler, chair of Llanmaes Community Council.

feasting at Llanmaes – perhaps the first Eisteddfod – can be seen as a living tradition in 2012, a continuing celebration of our cultural identity, past and present."

Much of the material excavated by Sir Cyril Fox from Llandow is on display in the Origins Gallery at The National Museum Cardiff.

The Llanmaes finds are not on permanent display yet as museum staff continue to work on them.

Historical details for this article were supplied by Mark Lodwick, National Museum Wales.

# Best of rural life on display as Vale Show is back again!

The Vale Show was back again this week – bigger and better than ever.

All the traditional country pursuits were highlighted yesterday (Wednesday), and there was keen competition in all the show classes.

Most importantly, the weather turned out fine.

Look out for more photographs of the day in next week's GEM.

RIGHT: Local Lions clubs were raising money for charity by operating a 'test your strength' machine



## PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:

e-mail ftoimage@tiscali.co.uk

telephone 07791 228684.

Visit our studio in the Wool Barn, Verity's Court, Cowbridge.



## BRIDGE RESULTS

VALE of Glamorgan Bridge Club, club night Monday August 13 (20 pairs):

1st. Mike Best & David Bird 62.73 per cent; 2nd. John Henson & Geoff Tinkler 57.64; 3rd. Amy Owen & James Mangles 57.18; 4th. Bill Turner & Steve Burgoyne 56.25; 5th. Mary Lougher & Graham Norris 55.56; 6th. Margaret Bancroft & Barbara Easterbrook 54.63.

Please note that there is no meeting this Monday, August 27 and a W.B.U simultaneous event on Monday, September 3 at 7pm prompt.

Cowbridge & District Bridge Club, club night, Llanbleddian, Tuesday, August 14 (14 pairs):

1st. Mearl Owen & Debbie Rosevear 63.10 per cent; 2nd. Teri Pollard & Sara Bartlett 62.30; 3rd. Mary Thomas & Dennis Barker 61.90; 4th. Ann Millar & Judy Springett 55.95; 5th. Marian East & Rita Williams 52.38; 6th. Hugh Williams & Myrtle Hansard 51.98.

Please note that subject to sufficient interest, it is proposed to recommence the Friday 'No Fear' bridge events on alternate Friday afternoons run by Barbara Easterbrook and Brian Swain from September 21 and we would appreciate hearing from past and new members on 01446 773960 (Barbara) or 01446 773596 (Brian).



# VALE'S GOLDEN MEMORIES OF HOSTING NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD WILL LAST YEARS

*IT may have been more than four decades since the National Eisteddfod visited the Vale – in 1968 it was held in Barry – but the wait proved worthwhile with the crowds enjoying wonderful weather at the end of the week.*

*Local photographer Andy Wicks captured people singing songs, playing instruments, relaxing in the sun, but most of all, smiling!*



PHOTOGRAPHS  
by **ANDY WICKS**  
Telephone 07855 374478





# PAGEANTRY, PERFORMANCE AND PRIZES – NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD'S DAYS IN THE SUN



GEM photographer Glyn Evans is an expert at capturing all the drama of the major events in the Vale and the National Eisteddfod was no exception.

As you can see from Glyn's images, the ceremonial moments don't just involve the 'great and the good', local children are always a key ingredient too.

## PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE  
AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Pictures can be purchased  
by contacting:

e-mail [ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk)  
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# Out and About with The GEM

## Bourne's Legacy tarnished by underwhelming attempt at a summer blockbuster



by GARETH JAMIESON

Follow Screen Talk on Twitter - @GEMScreenTalk

**W**HEN (spoiler alert!) Jason Bourne discovered his real name and dived headlong into the East river in New York, it appeared that the Bourne franchise had come to a logical conclusion.

Fast-forward five years, and with a fourth, Matt Damon-starring offering failing to pan out, the franchise moves on in The Bourne Legacy.

Jeremy Renner plays Aaron Cross, an agent who was also part of the same operation as Jason

Bourne. When Bourne's actions result in all operatives being terminated, under the orders of a mysterious man named Byer (Ed Norton), Cross is forced to go on the run where, with the aid of Dr Stephanie Snyder (Rachel Weisz), he discovers things about himself, and the organisation, that even he didn't know...

Hollywood seems to be inventing new genres and film types all the time to suit its ever-changing mood, but I'm not sure if there has ever been a parallel-quel before! The Bourne Legacy is essentially this, running seemingly alongside events of the

original trilogy with some of the characters and a whole host of new ones.

By doing this, it automatically puts it up against three films that are arguably some of the best examples of espionage on the big screen – sadly, The Bourne Legacy not only isn't a good example of espionage on the big screen, it's also a pretty average, underwhelming film in its own right.

The portents were good, the film scripted by series veteran Tony Gilroy and his brother Dan, with Tony in the director's chair.

However, the films feel like a straight pastiche of the original Bourne films, trying itself in knots trying to link into the previous films but succeeding in only muddying the waters, when a cleaner approach could so easily have been taken.

It isn't so much that the film is overshadowed by its progenitors, more that it makes itself so readily available to connect to it – the odd allusion here and there would have been fine, but using old footage to pad out the story not so much.

Gilroy's direction is strong, using Paul Greengrass' template for hand-held cameras and close-ups while delivering some decent spectacle, but he never seems to have the courage of his convictions; whereas Greengrass made the action a hard-hitting key ingredient of the story,

### Mind charity masked ball

MIND in the Vale of Glamorgan is hosting a masquerade ball and dinner to raise funds and public awareness of mental health, on Saturday, September 22, at the Paget Rooms, Penarth.

"The concept behind the masked ball was to highlight the stigma and discrimination which can worsen someone's mental health problems, and delay or impede getting help and treatment due to masking their emotions and feelings," a spokesperson explained.

Live entertainment will be provided by award-winning magician, Frank E Haschka and Big Mac's Wholly Soul Band.

For further information, contact 01446 730792 in office hours.

here Gilroy makes it feel tacked on for spectacle.

It isn't that Gilroy is a poor director – Michael Clayton was directed with intensity and invention, and while not the best of films, had a stylish charm, but here the director just seems to be lost, overwhelmed by the weight of the project.

Being the man of the moment, there was a lot of weight on Jeremy Renner's shoulders, without having to replace Matt Damon, but while he is a fine actor, here his personality barely registers.

He's nothing more than a rogue agent lacking in any character or emotional depth, and Renner struggles to really engage the character in any way.

While Rachel Weisz offers a decent turn as a scientist-cum-damsel in distress, she may as well have 'exposition' stamped on her forehead as regards her importance to the story, while Ed Norton never really gets out of second gear as military man Byer, a villain with no real villainy, just a man sat behind a computer making decisions.

While it is a shame that ...Legacy doesn't come close to matching what has gone before, it is hardly surprising – Damon's steely turn coupled with Greengrass' kinetic direction was what really elevated the franchise.

In the hands of Gilroy and Renner, it's just become another spy franchise.

**VERDICT** – A poor continuation of an excellent trilogy, The Bourne Legacy fails to spark to life, the film feeling flat and uninspiring. Tony Gilroy's poor script and direction, coupled with weak turns, makes this an unfulfilling experience and a weak film. Poor.

**SEE THIS IF YOU LIKE:** The Bourne Identity (2002), Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol (2011)

## Ty Hafan lottery winners

The following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D736.

● **£2,000:** 396131.  
● The rollover, which now stands at **£5,500**, was not won this week.  
● **£10:** 812745, 477863, 427002, 590176, 174587, 778428, 123203, 300777, 532626, 550083, 208729, 225745, 587472, 794697, 900772, 803401, 442378, 482312, 260765, 328887.

● **£5:** 643505, 270651, 452756, 248678, 830257, 422068, 186927, 392198, 489989, 421576, 766493.

619802, 183449, 304189, 824993, 228165, 818835, 651996, 251133, 791534, 662834, 621867, 426044, 820632, 398203, 309453, 470486, 600370, 131920, 545597, 963794, 261830, 463703, 323450, 262250, 887127, 499913, 196644, 249051, 442178, 716942, 639701, 238864, 377270, 549975, 669698, 267016, 465896, 500373, 830950, 107516, 148161, 470431, 847482, 476741, 138455, 395136, 571129, 593883, 607142.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

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# The GEM

'The Vale's favourite newspaper' announces this year's Grand Annual

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at the West End Social Club, BARRY

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**FISHING** 10.30am-2.30pm

**COMPETITION FEES** £1

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# Out and About with The GEM

**Craft fayre**  
**DEXTER'S FARM** at Felindre Mill, Pencoed, CF35 5HU, will be hosting a craft and country fayre in conjunction with Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research on August 26-27, from 10.30am-5pm.

More than 20 stalls offering a variety of crafts, gifts, artisan produce and preserves, live music and raffles are available, while entry to the fayre is free, with donations going to the charity.

For more details, contact Dexter's on 01656 860017.

**Nantgarw fair**  
IN 2013, Nantgarw China Works celebrates its bi-centennial – it is almost 200 years since Nantgarw became the home to one of the finest, most important porcelain manufacturers in the UK.

Famed around the world, the majority of

the porcelain produced at Nantgarw was sent to London decorators or retailers where it was lavishly finished to adorn aristocratic tables and display cabinets.

The Friends of Nantgarw are an organisation dedicated to the maintenance and restoration of the Nantgarw China Works Museum.

An antiques fair will be held to raise funds on August 27.

**Fair**  
The ever-popular St Mary Hill Fair will take place on August Bank Holiday Monday.

Visitors from all over south Wales (and further afield) will be on there for the start at 10am on August 27, on the common between Pencoed and Heol-y-Cyw.

The colourful fair has been the home of small animal traders for centuries, with chickens, ducks, geese and lots of ferrets changing hands.

There will also be horse and pony buyers and sellers and plenty of

market stalls, and big parks available on the common (cost: £3 per car).

The fair raises money for charity and £3,000 from last year's event was handed over to the Macmillan Nurses fund.

**Fashion show**  
THERE will be a charity fashion show with M&Co in aid of the Sensory Garden Project, Belvedere Park, on August 31 at 7.30pm at Castletand Community Centre.

Tickets are £5, available from Jean at the community centre, or by calling: 01446 403549.

**Table top sale**  
A TABLE top sale comprising books, toys, videos, DVDs, electrical goods, kitchen utensils, cakes, china and bric-a-brac stalls, will be held at Heol-y-Cyw welfare hall from 1pm-4pm, Saturday, September 1.

Refreshments available; proceeds in aid of Bethel Chapel restoration fund.

**Wick show**  
THE Jubilee and Olympic celebrations may be over, but the theme is included in floral decoration and children's classes at the Wick Horticultural Show at Wick Village Hall on Saturday, September 1.

As usual, there are vegetables, fruit, flowers, potted plants, floral decoration, baking and children's classes. Doors are open at 2pm.

**Vale dyspraxia support**

THE next meeting of the Vale Dyspraxia Support Group will be on Monday, September 3 at 7.30pm in the Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU. All parents and carers of children and young people with dyspraxia and associated conditions are welcome to come along, with their children.

The group supports children and young people with dyspraxia (as well as related conditions such as dyslexia, ADHD, Asperger's Syndrome, OCD, Tourettes) and their parents and carers by providing advice and information, as well as an opportunity to exchange experiences.

The Vale Dyspraxia Support Group operates a 24-hour and advice line on 01446 738945 and a website, [www.vds.org.uk](http://www.vds.org.uk) and also runs social activities and a laptop loan programme.

**Cancer Research UK fashion show**  
THE Porthcawl Committee for Cancer Research is hosting a fashion show on September 15 at All Saints Church Hall, Porthcawl at 7pm.

Come along and see all the latest fashions by Samantha B of Ewenny. Enjoy a glass of wine and nibbles, all for £5! For tickets, contact

Diane on 01656 784762 or Sue on 01656 773670, or pay at the door.

**Singers sought**  
COR Bro Ogwr is waiting to welcome male choristers with open arms and a song-sheet!

No auditions; first rehearsal of the autumn at 7pm on Wednesday, September 5 at the Tabernacle Church, Derwen Road, Bridgend.

Check out website [www.cor-bro-ogwr.com](http://www.cor-bro-ogwr.com).

**Welsh chat**  
A WELSH language and chat group meets the last Thursday of every month from 8.30pm at the West End Social Club, St Nicholas Road, Barry.

It's a welcoming and easy going group. Whether you are fluent, learning or just want to brush up, all are welcome.

For more information contact Anna on 07931 849258.

**Textile group**  
CUTTING EDGE is a group that meets the second Wednesday of every month at Llanblethian Village Hall, Cowbridge, between 10am-4pm.

The group meets to share ideas and skills of all things textile: patchwork, quilting, embroidery and embellishment of fabrics.

For more information, contact Pam Stead on 01446 772965.

## Come down to village show!

**THIS year's Dinas Powys Village Show will be held on Saturday, September 1, at the Parish hall and gardens.**

There has been a lot of interest shown in the show since it was first advertised in The GEM.

There will be more than 100 classes catering for all ages, and with a £3 cash prize for first place in each class, it is an extremely popular annual event.

The show is a fun occasion, a chance to meet up with family and friends and perhaps make new ones. Even if you do not wish to enter the

competitions, there will be plenty going on during the afternoon: music from the Dinas Powys Ecumenical Seven, two Punch and Judy shows, raffle, free face painting and balloon modelling and the excellent Women's Institute teas.

There will be a free bouncy castle, weather permitting of course, and it is hoped that the popular model railway track and other mechanical attractions will be set out in the gardens, and a professional gardener will be demonstrating and advising on planting up winter containers.

For more information, call the show chairman on 029 20513274. VH

**NANTGARW CHINAWORKS MUSEUM ANTIQUES FAIR**

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## BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND

**Saturday, 25th August** - Mini Fund Raising Day commences 2 til 7pm - Bouncy Castle, Tug-of-War, Face Painting, Raffle Prizes and BBQ.

Entertainment - Top Band 'Smokin' Aces' 8.30 til late

**Sunday, 26th August** - Pub Quiz at 2.30pm followed by Cabaret and Karaoke, Bouncy Castle.

**Bank Holiday Monday** - Restaurant open 12 til 6pm, Entertainment with great solo singer 'Genuine' 4 til 7pm. Take advantage of our Monday Club prices.

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Tel: 01639 881635 [www.margamcountrypark.co.uk](http://www.margamcountrypark.co.uk)

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## MONDAY

Barry

4.30 & 6.30pm

The Tadross Hotel, Holton Road (next to Bassett Park)

Lorraine - 01446 407002

Rhoose

5.30pm & 8.30pm

Celtic Way Community Centre, Celtic Way

Helen - 01446 750738

Penarth

5.30pm & 7.30pm

Elfed Avenue Methodist Church, Elfed Road

Nia - 07793 885581

## TUESDAY

Barry - 5.30pm

Holy Trinity

Presbyterian Church, Trinity Street

Joanne - 01446 404897

Barry - 4.30pm

St. David's Methodist Church Hall, Winston Road

Annamarie - 01446 736534

Llantwit Major

5.30pm & 7.30pm

Our Lady & St Iltyd Church (Catholic)

Ham Lane East

Helen - 01446 750738

Sully - 6.30pm

The Old School

South Road

Niki - 01446 740394

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Cadoxton

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Church Road

Joanne - 01446 404897

Penarth

9.30am & 11.45am

All Saints Church Hall

Victoria Square

Tracy - 07894 275853

Penarth

5.00pm & 7.00pm

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Wyndham Street

Niki - 01446 740394

## THURSDAY

Cowbridge - 9.30am

Cowbridge

Rugby Club

Rob - 07708 941279

Dinas Powys

5.30pm & 7.30pm

The Cabin by swimming pool, Hebron Hall

Sarah - 07525852288

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## VALE REDS CELEBRATE THEIR FIRST YEAR OF FOOTBALL



**THE** Vale Reds disability football team held their end of year presentation at Barry Rugby Club.

Thanks were given to everyone who attended and supported the club on that day and at the pan disability football tournaments through last season.

Certificates and medals were awarded to all the players.

Trophies were presented to Ben Nicholas and Amy Gifford for winning the skills competition earlier in the year. The coaches' under-16 player award went to Ewan Heppenstall, and Matthew Prewett took the over-16s' award.

Two players' player awards were given out, the under-16s to Lewis Overton and over-16s to Anthony Bratcher.



The club's award winners.

A trophy was awarded to Nicholas Latham for 'Sports Person of the Year' for his overall attitude to football and work in the club.

The committee would like to thank everyone who helped to make this presentation a success,

with a big thank you going to Barry Rugby Club for allowing us to hold it there again this year.

The club would also like to thank everyone who has supported them this year and a big thank you to Odyssey Legal

Services, Law Costs Draftsman for the donation to the club for transport costs.

If any boys or girls wish to join the Vale Reds next season, especially over 12 years of age, contact Phil Prewett on 07732 079839. The

club train on a Wednesday night at Cadroxton Community Sports Hall from 7pm.

The club are also looking for an additional coach for next season. Anyone interested should contact Phil Prewett.

## Emphatic win for Wanderers Seconds

**BARRY Wanderers Second XI emphatically prevailed against Monkwood by 207 runs in their recent match.**

Wanderers' captain Tom Ridgwell won the toss and elected to bat first on a dry track at the Hayes Point ground. The opening partnership of Chris Barnes and Matthew Burgin started circumspectly against some tight bowling, and when Burgin chipped to mid-on for just one, Monkwood temporarily held the upper hand.

However, that was as good as it got all day for the away team as Barnes and new batsman Ridgwell put on a brisk 49 in just over nine overs. But then, disaster struck as Barnes simply wandered out of his crease and was promptly run out by 10 yards.

Ridgwell and Renoir Defoe continued to make good progress and took the score to 117 until the captain fell for a spirited 53, clean bowled by the sprightly Smith.

Damien Davies came to the crease and, after entertaining the crowd with his full repertoire of calls – among them "waiting for now" and "see what happens" – proceeded to smash the ball to all corners, putting on 110 with the

free-flowing Defoe until the latter was out for 51.

A late flurry from Krishna Nandan – 30 off 11 balls – enabled the Wanderers to reach an impressive 263 for 5 off their allotted 45 overs, Davies remaining unbeaten on 51.

When play resumed, Monkwood were soon up against it. The new ball partnership of Krishna and Garth Wagner-Hughes steamed in with such ferocity that openers Pilley and Watkins could barely lay bat on ball, and by the ninth over both had fallen, for seven and one respectively.

Hughes then bowled Malson to pick up his second wicket, but the real star of the Wanderers' attack was youth-team prodigy Theophilus Richards, who bowled Bagley with his first ball before bamboozling a succession of batsmen with his accurate medium pace, eventually finishing with the impressive figures of 5-0-17-3. He was ably supported by fellow youth-team star Elwyn Toozer (4-1-9-2) who bowled his usual tight spell, despite insisting on pushing mid-off out to the boundary when the opposition were reeling at 52 for 7.

Monkwood's lower order offered no resistance as the rampant Wanderers' attack tore through the tail, the Gwent side eventually all out for a paltry 56.

At the end of such a grand sporting spectacle it was left to the cream of local musical talent to entertain at the Glenbrook Inn, a particular highlight being Freddie Burgin's rendition of Queen's back catalogue.

Benjamin Hill

## TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC

**THERE will be a teddy bears' picnic on Sunday, September 2 at All Saints Church, Penarth, from 3.30pm-5pm.**

Teddies are invited to bring their young owners to an afternoon of fun and food in Victoria Square, Penarth, outside All Saints Church.

If the weather is wet or the ground is soft we will be inside the church. There will be lots of things to do (activities for under fives) and food and drinks are provided. Admission is free, and all are welcome.

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# LOVE OF LANGUAGE AND SONG IS AT HEART OF THE NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD



## PHOTOGRAPHS by MIKE WILCOCK

LOCAL photographer Mike Wilcock was on hand to provide a pictorial record of the 2012 National Eisteddfod in the Vale.

For many people, the highlight is listening to the wonderful choirs, while for others it is the celebration of the Welsh language in poetry and literature.

Whatever the attraction of Wales' most famous cultural festival, everyone agrees that it's a great place to make new friends and meet up with old ones.





## PENCOED RUGBY ROUND-UP

# First team slip up in a friendly encounter

PENCOED were unable to maintain the good performance of the previous week at Caerphilly – Pontyclun on the day deserving their success in this 42-17 win, although a couple of soft late tries distorted the final scoreline.

The match was being played over two 30, and one 20-minute periods, the first period ending 0-0 with both sides having created a few chances.

Pencoed opened the scoring early in the second period. Good handling from the inside backs saw skipper Ken Morris surge away in the outside centre position before sending Glen Hiscocks flying away to score.

The Pontyclun response was immediate, scoring two tries within minutes against a somewhat hesitant Pencoed defence.

With a number of players out of position for Pencoed during this period the home side took full advantage, crossing for their third try before Hiscocks went outside his marker for his and Pencoed's second try.

Then, a superb 70-



ABOVE: Ben Read prepares for impact, and LEFT: Keith Burke off-loads. PHOTOGRAPHS BY JULIE HANCOCK

metre break from Tom Cross almost brought a further Pencoed score, only to run out of support close to the Pontyclun line. The second period ended at 21-10.

A real positive for Pencoed was the strength of their scrummaging, and this indirectly led to the next Pencoed score.

Veteran Keith Burke fed Cross, who won a kick and chase to pick up and score in the right-hand corner; Adam Halse added a fine conversion.

Unfortunately for

Pencoed, two late home scores saw Pontyclun run out 42-17 winners.

Pencoed head coach

Steve Rees will not lose too much sleep over this result as there were 10 players less at his disposal from the previous week.

On Saturday, the squad will have their final pre season work out at Cwmavon when, hopefully, a more representative First XV squad is available and a truer picture of the season ahead becomes apparent.

The youth team recorded their second pre season win over Bryncethin, having beaten Tylorstown the previous week.

This win was especially pleasing with seven of the emergent under-16 side within



Glen Hiscocks evades an oncoming tackler.

their ranks, and this good performance was based on a strong scrummaging pack.

Tries came from Ryan Russell, James Tredray, Adam

Williams, Liam Jury and Jordan Hawkins. There were stand out performances from Rhys Clark, Dan Davies, and Isaac Bolton.

TR

## CASH BOOST FOR CRICKET CLUB



Colin Metson from Cricket Wales, Huw Davies from Bridgend Cricket Club, Peter Hybart from Cricket Wales, Huw Lock from SWALEC and Simon Jones.

**BRIDGEND Cricket Club has received £2,000 from Wales' SWALEC as part of its Cricket Community Development Fund.**

The scheme, which is in association with Cricket Wales and Glamorgan Cricket, provides funds to support recreational cricket and grow the sport at a local level.

Bridgend Cricket Club has put the funds towards purchasing a cover, waterhog and storage container.

Huw Davies, club treasurer, said: "The new equipment we've been able to buy with the funding from SWALEC is going to help us a great deal. This has been one of the wettest summers I've experienced throughout the time I've played cricket, so to have a waterhog will mean we can keep the pitch drier and hopefully get more games played over the rest of the season."

"We don't have much storage space at the club so we've had to keep our equipment stored in a container. The old one was leaking but because they're expensive we couldn't afford to replace it until now."

Bridgend Cricket Club has 100 reg-

istered players and plays four Saturday teams and five youth teams.

Huw continued: "We're a growing club, particularly with our youth sides. We're in the SWALEC Premier League, meaning we're in the top 10 in south Wales, so we need to stay where we are this season."

Jonny Petrie, head of sponsorship at SWALEC, said: "We hope that the Community Development Fund will encourage more people to get involved with the game of cricket and we hope to strengthen it at grassroots level. We're exceptionally pleased to offer the support to Bridgend Cricket Club."

As well as receiving £2,000, the club was also given free tickets to a Glamorgan Cricket match.

Colin Metson, community and cricket development manager at Glamorgan Cricket, said: "We're delighted to be working with SWALEC again on this community initiative. Community clubs have an important role to play in the overall development of the sport so it's key that these clubs are supported and have the necessary equipment, kit and facilities to enjoy the game at its full potential."

## Phoenix's big friendly victory...



ABOVE: Amy Stevens on the attack.

**PENCOED Phoenix made the long journey to Gwernyfed for this pre season friendly match.**

The Breconshire side,



Hannah Seward gets on the scoresheet.

last season's development league champions, were no match for Phoenix on the day, as they ran out 48-7 winners, the match showing just how much Phoenix have improved since their own Development League success in 2010.

Phoenix stated their intentions from the off, dominating the early phases and recycling possession before prop forward Alana Shakespeare crashed over for what appeared to be the opening score.

However, the excellent match official ruled otherwise, a disappointed Shakespeare denied her first try for Phoenix.

Soon after the Phoenix backs handled well to put right wing flyer Hannah Seward away around half-way,



ABOVE: Natalie O'Shea grounds the ball for a try. (PICTURES by JULIE HANCOCK)

the pace of the ex-Cardiff City ladies footballer doing the rest.

Phoenix then caught Gwernyfed on the counter, flanker Amy Stevens with a long kick clear from her 22 before Seward again showed her pace to hack on and get the touchdown.

Gwernyfed then enjoyed a period of pressure in the Phoenix 22 before Shakespeare ripped over possession under her own posts to relieve a dangerous situation.

The Phoenix backs were getting the ball to the dangerous Seward at the earliest opportunity, and once again her pace took her clear of the home defence for a 20-

minute hat-trick.

Early in the second period Phoenix hooker/flanker Nat O'Shea showed her determination on the counter, running in from 60 metres and going through the last defender with a no-nonsense hand off! Seward converted.

Gwernyfed then got on the scoresheet with a penalty try, reward for their contribution in this match.

Phoenix continued to move the ball wide for Stevens to release Seward with a well-timed pass, Seward sprinting away for her fourth try, before converting. Phoenix led 7-29 at the end of the second period.

Stevens was next on the scoresheet for Phoenix, a weaving 40-metre run taking her past several defenders and under the posts for a converted try. O'Shea then got her second 60-metre try of the game, before Phoenix closed the match out with their eighth try, centre Nerys Lloyd putting co-centre Katie Murphy across the whitewash.

This Phoenix win was again based on a solid forward platform, well led by skipper Marina Newth.

They capitalised throughout on quality possession, none more so than player of the match Hannah Seward.

TR

## Shootout win for Kenfig Hill AFC

**WITH six new players making their debut, Kenfig Hill AFC had a morale boosting result away to Ely Rangers FC, from the Rhondda and District league, in the Welsh Cup.**

After taking a two-goal lead, Ely must have thought that they were on top. However, Kenfig Hill finally woke up and dominated possession for long periods of the match, with Ely looking for the occasional long ball over the top.

With Michael Bevan, Richard Mason and Gareth Duffy scoring some well-worked goals, it now looked like Kenfig were going home with a well-deserved win.

However, with 15 minutes to go, and against the run of play, Ely pulled a goal back when their number four hit a speculative shot

from outside the box, which flew into the top of the net.

This seemed to lift Ely, who then scored again when their striker hit a shot that took a deflection off a Kenfig player, which wrong-footed the keeper to make the score 4-3 to them.

Kenfig Hill did not panic and continued to dominate play with Bevan, Mason and Stuart Davies creating some good chances.

Finally, they forced a

corner and substitute Jake Lane won a vital header in the box to set up Gareth Loye to level the score.

The game went into extra time, but with both teams suffering from the heat it ended 4-4, resulting in a penalty shootout.

Kenfig Hill held their nerve and proceeded to strike four clean penalties to seal a good win and give them a lot of confidence at the start of the season.

RS

## LATEST BRIDGE CLUB RESULTS

**THE results for Bridgend Bridge Club for recent evenings are:**

Wednesday, August 15 – first: Jonathan and Simon Richards, second: Peter Bugden and Geoff Barnes, third: Mel Humphries and Glyn Williams.

On Friday, August 17 – first: Vida Halford and Glyn Williams, second: Muriel Maslin and Margaret Williams, joint third: Ann Fox and Steve Burgoyne, and John Henson and Terry Dolan.

In addition to the regular club nights on Wednesdays and Fridays at Noltun Church Hall at 7pm, there are lessons for beginners with Graham Jones, also on Fridays at 7pm; lessons for improvers will resume in the autumn.

All welcome to register an interest, contact one of Graham Jones (01446 775952), Steve Burgoyne (01656 661958) or David Newman (01656 6439138).

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## Who wants to build what and where in the Vale

Professor Henry Collins – 12 **Paget Place, Penarth** – proposed two storey side extension and workshop.

Mr Ian Hunt – 93 **Llanmaes Road, Llantwit Major** – proposed sun-lounge and canopy cover to frontage of property.

Bar 44 – Bar 44, 14 **Windsor Road, Penarth** – alterations to shop front, plus single storey extensions and flue to rear elevation.

Bar 44 – Bar 44, 14 **Windsor Road, Penarth** – externally lit fascia sign.

Mrs Gidget Sullivan – 18 **Bittern Way, Penarth** – amendment to approved plan ref 2012/00313/FUL (installation of Juliet balcony).

Mr and Mrs Martin Best – 6 **Ashby Road, Sully** – extension to rear to comprise two storey and single storey extension.

Sinclair Holdings – **Cogan Hotel, 51 Hewell Street, Penarth** – installation of new shop front and door to former skittle alley fronting Pill Street.

Mr Geoff Houliker – **St Helen's Infants School, Maes y Cwm Street, Barry** – addition of conservatory to an existing school to provide a staff room and classroom.

Mr and Mrs Anthony – 12 **Clos yr Wylan, Barry** – new rear extension and new loft conversion.

Swanbridge Hire & Sales Ltd – **Swanbridge Hire and Sales Ltd, Atlantic Trading Estate, Barry** – extension of existing office building to provide second floor and office accommodation.

Mr Gareth Williams – **Greystones, Factory Road, Llanblethian, Cowbridge** – revisions to planning consent No 2009/00303/FUL for reduced extension to house.

Mr William Clay – **Coed Hills Woods, St Hilary** – prior notification of agricultural or forestry development.

Mr Brown – 24 **Caynham Avenue, Penarth** – conservatory to rear elevation and porch to side elevation.

Mr Michael Lloyd – 1 **Woodside, The Elms, Peterston Super Ely** – new retaining wall with car parking area formed to front of house.

Mr M Hodgekinson – 148 **Jenner Road, Barry** – single storey extension to comprise a kitchen. External wall finish to match that of existing building.

Mr Matthew Rich – 2 **Heol Gwendoline, Barry Waterfront, Barry** – convert garage into bedroom. Remove up and over garage door, replace with brick and window to match current bricks and windows.

Mr and Mrs Gambill – 38 **Westgate, Cowbridge** – to carry out a heavy reduction on Stags Horn tree.

Mr and Mrs C and J Maunder – **Lower Barn, Southra, Dinas Powys** – construction of a detached garage.

Mr Timothy Kelly – 8 **Breaksea Close, Sully** – extension to rear ground floor kitchen.

BPS Facilities Ltd – 44 **Plymouth Road, Barry** – single storey side extension and construction of new steps and low level lift in front garden.

Mr David St Clair – 41 **Bedford Rise, Llantwit Major** – retrospective planning application for outbuilding to rear.

Mr Alistair Wilson – 5 **Edith Road, Dinas Powys** – dormer attic conversion to create bedroom and en-suite.

Mr James Prichard – land to the south of **Hen Cartref, Colwinston** – the erection of a detached dwelling and associated works.

Mr Eurig Jenkins – 18 **Orchard**

**Crescent, Dinas Powys** – single storey rear and side extension.

BDW Trading Ltd – site known as **West Pond, Barry Waterfront, Barry** – application for approval of Reserved Matters: residential development (up to 111 dwellings by BDW Trading Ltd) and associated infrastructure works, parking, servicing and landscaping.

Persimmon Homes Ltd – site known as **West Pond, Barry Waterfront, Barry** – application for approval of Reserved Matters: residential development (up to 136 dwellings by Persimmon Homes Ltd) and associated infrastructure works, parking, servicing and landscaping.

Mr and Mrs Christopher and Julie Dennis – **Brynsych Farm, Morfa Lane, Llantwit Major** – single storey rear extension.

Kellaway Carpentry Services – **Parkstone House, 23 Park Avenue, Barry** – change of use from C3 residential to B1 offices.

Mr David Vicker – **Ty Newydd, Westgate, Cowbridge** – construct single storey extension to rear and side of existing property.

Ceri Hulm – 3 **Bridge House, 49 Plymouth Road, Penarth** – replace wooden sash windows with uPVC double glazed units.

Mr Glenn Williams – **Aderlyn Cottage, Nurston** – two storey extension to comprise a dining room on the ground floor and a utility room, bedroom and recreational area on the first floor. All external roof and wall finishes to match those existing building.

Mrs Susan Tobin – **Christmas Cottage, Pen y Lan Road, St Brides Major** – two storey extension.

Ms Elizabeth Fine – 10 **Hillside Drive, Cowbridge** – prune lateral branches up to 2.5m, reshape and rebalance remaining crown on oak tree in rear garden.

Mr Myerscough – 1 **Meliden Road, Penarth** – reduce the crown of walnut tree by up to 2.0m in length.

Mr R Rees – **Coach House Farm, Michaelston Le Pit** – 1) proposed lean-to to rear of agricultural building; and 2) retention of two grain silos.

Mr John Elliot – 74 **Plymouth Road, Penarth** – demolition of existing flat roofed utility area and erection of a single storey and rear extension.

Executors of FP Esterkin Dec'd – 24 **Holton Road, Barry** – change of use of upper floors into self-contained residential flats.

Mr Frank Moloney – 10 **Park Road, Penarth** – alterations and extensions to rear elevations at 10 Park Road. New car parking created to north side of house to alleviate unsuitable current car parking situation; associated landscaping works.

Mr Frank Moloney – 10 **Park Road, Penarth** – reinstatement of former Coach House to provide garden store and children's den.

Mr and Mrs Willidge – **Stepaside, Peterston Super Ely** – reduce multi trunk ash tree, reduce ash tree and fell ash and blackthorn trees.

Mrs Conolly – 5 **Speedwell Drive, Rhose** – rear dormer.

Mr David O'Sullivan – **O'Sullivan Opticians Ltd, 31C Holton Road, Barry** – change of use from current commercial opticians practice to residential two two-bedroom apartments.

Mr Leighton Rees – 12 **Bencrofte, Rhose** – garage conversion.

Mr N Safdar – 53 **Vere Street, Cadoxton, Barry** – proposed rear single storey store room extension.

Mrs Philippa Tuckey – 3 **Cae Glas, Ewenny** – conservatory on

front of house.

Mr Ashley Hicks – **Ty Gwyn, Heol Y Cawl, Dinas Powys** – demolition of existing conservatory and construction of single storey extension.

Mr and Mrs J Townsend – 10 **Glan Y Nant, Treoes** – an extension to an existing single storey extension to make it two storey.

The extension offers further accommodation of two double bedrooms and ensuite bathroom facilities.

Ms Corinne Edwards – 8 **Charteris Close, Penarth** – ground floor extension to kitchen at rear. Relocation of garage.

Mrs Samantha Thomas – **land near New Well Farm, Wick** – timber constructed low level barn containing stables and associated storage. Change of use from agricultural to equestrian.

Messrs Alan and Peter John – **Vale of Glamorgan Inn, 53 High Street, Cowbridge** – change of use from five bedrooms with ensuite facilities to first floor, into three self-contained residential flats comprising two one-bedroom and one two-bedroom and to construct glass roof conservatory to alleyway adjoining existing covered way.

Headlands School – 2 **St Augustines Crescent, Penarth** – extension to existing dining facility.

Mr Peter Brooks – **The Market Garden, Coed Hills, St Hilary** – application for three polytunnels, reconstructed site access, plus temporary shelters.

Mrs Denise Driveman – 8 **Sully Terrace, Penarth** – proposed single storey rear extension to the existing dwelling including minor external works.

Mr Shayban Al Ibrahim – 15-17 **Holton Road, Barry** – forming new access in party wall between two adjacent units no 15 and 17 Holton Road to form a single shop unit together with changing the shopfront for both units and the main shopfront sign.

Mr Shayban Al Ibrahim – 15-17 **Holton Road, Barry** – new fascia sign.

Mr Robert Hales – 12 **Vale Court, Cowbridge** – two storey rear extension and internal improvements.

Care Inn Ltd – **Springbank Nursing Home, College Road, Barry** – installation of new lift and lift shaft.

Mr Michael Mulcahy – **Coopersale House, Piccadilly, Llanblethian, Cowbridge** – erection of single storey rear extension (orange) following demolition of existing conservatory.

Mrs Rachel Salmon – 11 **Wordsworth Avenue, Penarth** – alterations to existing roof construction on single storey rear extension.

Mr John Higson – 16 **Lon Cefn Mably, Rhose** – single storey rear extension.

Mrs Evans – **Rose Cottage, Southgate, Cowbridge** – dismantle in sections, cut main stem close to ground level Douglas Fir located in side garden.

Mr Lowry – **land south of 35 Village Farm and adjacent to Coach House, Bonvilston** – G1: 5 Ash stems - coppice to 1m above ground level. G2: Sycamore - coppice to 1m above ground level. G3: Elm - fell to ground level.

Ms Maria Hughes – **Beach Café, Colhugh Street, Llantwit Major** – minor extension to existing modern flat roofed building, maintaining existing aesthetics and levels, proposed minor extension to site to rear of existing building. Minor demolition works to joining wall to provide access internally

## LADIES FINALS DAY AT BRYNHILL GC



ABOVE: Crystal Cup finalists (left to right), caddy Di Bryant, Norma Phillips, match referee Chris Hopkins, caddy Helena Coombes and Margaret Codd.



Daniel Downton Cwtch fund presentation, Daniel's mum Claire (left) and Jodie Winter



Championship finalists (left to right), Helene Cook, match referee Jo Hopkins and Sam Pascoe.

**THE Brynhill Golf Club ladies championship final, played over 36 holes, was a repeat of the 2009 final.**

Last year's winner, Sam Pascoe, played Helene Cook with Jo Hopkins as match referee.

The drizzle cleared and Helene took an early lead, going four up after eight holes.

Sam countered with two pars and a birdie to get back to one down.

Helene came storming back, winning four of the next five holes, going in to lunch five up.

In 2009, Helene was in this position before, in fact going in for lunch at six up, but losing.

However, having followed earlier the morning's play, I couldn't help but notice that Helene seemed to be so much more focused this time round, undoubtedly due in no small part to her caddy Gemma.

The match resumed at 1.40pm, and unfortunately, the morning's conditions had been replaced by a heavy drizzle.

Sam wasn't going to relinquish her title without a struggle, and began by winning the 19th.

However, a determined Helene produced some good golf to win four of the next five and was able to close out the match on the 31st hole, becoming Brynhill's champion for the third time.

The **Diack final** (for handicaps 20-29) was played between Claire Herbert and Hilary West.

The match was expected to be a close encounter – Claire the longer driver, but Hilary is known for a solid short game.

Claire took control winning four consecutive holes to go four up. Hilary valiantly fought back, but Claire was to prove too strong on this occasion, sinking the winning putt on the 14th.

In heavy drizzle, the **Crystal Cup** final (handicaps 30-36) was played between Margaret Codd and Norma Phillips. The match was refereed by Chris Hopkins.

Margaret was coming into the match in good form, having recently won two club competitions, but Norma was to settle first, winning the first hole. It wasn't until the fourth hole, however, that Margaret was able to get ahead but then Norma found herself on the 11th tee, five down.

Norma came back to win the 11th, but a fine drive on the narrow 12th and a good second shot to the green put Margaret back to five up.

They halved the 13th but Margaret closed out the match on the 14th.



ABOVE: Diack finalists (left to right), Hilary West, match referee Alma Shepherd, and Claire Herbert

Well done to both ladies playing some good golf in pretty miserable conditions!

In the evening, members and guests returned to the clubhouse for a delicious two-course dinner.

Prior to the golf presentations, there was a poignant moment when the lady captain reminded us that on July 28, more than 90 members and guests played in the Colin Jones Memorial Day competition, with the money raised going to the Daniel Cwtch fund.

A cheque for £867 was handed over by Jodie Winter to Daniel's mum Claire, who gave her heartfelt thanks to everyone for their continuing support.

Floral arrangements were presented to the golf winners and runners-up, and there followed some extremely humorous speeches.

All the finalists thanked Iain Grant and his grounds staff for the fine condition of the course and acknowledged the help and support of their caddies – and praised the supporters who had stayed out on the course despite the awful weather.

JP

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# Dunford delights Dinas Powys with hat-trick in a seven-goal thriller

ON a fine day, Dinas Powys started with a high tempo and took a firm grip on the game whilst player manager Mark Dunford was in the mood to top up more than just his tan by adding to his goal tally.

Dinas Powys dealt with the Caldicot long ball and countered with more purpose to their attack than the previous two games.

With the upper hand it was vital Dinas made the most of the possession and in the 20th minute it paid off when a Steve Provis long-range pass caught out the Caldicot defence and Steff Davies controlled the ball superbly with his head,

taking it past the outcoming goalkeeper and showing composure to slot the ball into the net from 12 yards.

Continuing the good spell, it wasn't long before Dinas added a second. Once again, quick thinking Steve Provis took a quick free kick after spotting a good run from Dunford, playing him through. With an instinctive finish past the outcoming goalkeeper he made it 2-0.

The game was then turned on its head two minutes before half-time when a tangle in the Dinas box resulted in Steff Davies getting sent off for his second yellow card and Caldicot being awarded a penalty, which they scored to set up a thrilling second half.

It started with a very

## WELSH LEAGUE DIVISION TWO DINAS POWYS 4 CALDICOT TOWN 3

well-structured 10-man Dinas Powys holding off a raised tempo Caldicot performance, eager to get back on terms.

But within five minutes this went against them as a quickly-taken free-kick deep within their own half was pressed and won back by Richard Yarr. His superb early pass put through another well-timed run from Dunford, who again took his chance early with a cool finish to give Dinas much-needed breathing space.

Caldicot responded with continued pressure onto the Dinas back four who held strong. In the 61st minute, Liam Jeremy was provided the chance to counter attack down the left flank and, placing a perfect early low ball across the back-tracking Caldicot defence and into the path of Robbie Fowler.

He was brought down

in the box before being able to get his shot off.

Mark Dunford then took the opportunity from the penalty spot, sending the goalkeeper the wrong way to gain his hat-trick and 10-man Dinas Powys a 4-1 lead.

With just under 30 minutes to go Caldicot made two substitutions that made an immediate impact with two goals in 10 minutes.

A scramble in the box, finished from eight yards, and a precise left-foot strike low into the bottom corner from just outside the box, saw a lot of pressure on the home team during the last 15 minutes of the game.

The Dinas defence held on and kept possession well to eventually see out the game as 4-3 winners and give a big kick start to their season.

DINAS POWYS 1  
ELY RANGERS 1  
DINAS had the bet-

ter of the first half and could have gone ahead after 10 minutes.

Rangers keeper Ashley Hart raced out of his area to stop the attack, handling the ball in the process, but the referee only handed him a booking when on another day he would have been sent off for stopping a clear threat on goal.

Instead, Dinas had to wait until the 41st minute before Steffan Davies beat the Rangers defence to head home a Richard Yarr cross.

Rangers started the second half with more purpose and took only five minutes to equalise when Richard Greaves was played through the Dinas defence, firing home from 12 yards.

Steffan Davies and Liam Jeremy both had chances for the winner but Rangers' better second half display meant that the draw was probably the right result.

MW

## East end is back open for business!



**BARRY East end re-opened this Monday (August 20) for its new season of boxing.**

After a successful end to last season, with one of the young lads, Rhys Geishemier, making it through to Welsh selection and going to fight in Scotland in the Great British finals and coming home with a silver medal, everyone is eager to go.

The club will be offering mixed sessions with juniors Mondays and Wednesdays from 5pm-6pm; and seniors Monday-Wednesday from 6pm (fighters only).

New to the East end will be the boxer-fitness classes available to everyone, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6.30pm-7.30pm, only £3 per session or £5 for both.

ML

If anyone is interested in taking up boxing, junior or senior level, please feel free to come along – we are based in the Windsor Hotel on Holton Road in Barry.

You may even get the chance to train alongside a regular visitor to our gym, the current British and Commonwealth featherweight champion Lee Selby, who will also be holding a public sparring session shortly with another British champion as he gets ready for his upcoming defence against Martin Lindsay in Belfast on September 22.

Also, everyone in the gym is wishing the co-founder Henry Brown all the best in his recovery.

## Barry primary school given gold star for PE program



Cadoxton Primary School has received a top award for its PE program from Sport Wales.

**CADOXTON PRIMARY SCHOOL** has finished top of the class after their work in PE received a glowing report.

Sport Wales and the Association for Physical Education (AfPE) are championing schools which recognise the importance of PE.

All schools can apply for ActiveMarc Cymru and, this year, 29 schools from across Wales have sailed through.

ActiveMarc Cymru endorses schools that are committed to developing high quality physical education and school sport and for promoting the benefits of physical activity.

Headteacher, Janet Hayward, said: "We are thrilled to receive The ActiveMarc award as

we are so committed to providing our children with the best opportunities to be physically active in school as it impacts so positively on their health and wellbeing.

"We are very lucky in Cadoxton to have our sports hall and the excellent facilities at Victoria Park.

"A lot of time has also been spent on staff training to improve the quality of PE lessons and this really shines through.

"We had a fantastic 'Olympic Warmup Week' in June with opening and closing ceremonies, sports days and a visit from an Olympic torchbearer.

"It was the icing on the cake to receive this award before the end of term."

If other schools wish to apply, visit: [www.sportwales.org.uk](http://www.sportwales.org.uk).

## Cadoxton lose out to high-flying Bargoed

**CADOXTON V BARGOED - ML3**  
Another outstanding performance from Don Kuhnell produced the only winning rink for Cadoxton when they visited Bargoed, to be greeted by a young talented side, running for promotion.

His front players, Glen Solomon and David Evans, gave good support, with plenty of well-placed bowls, with Len Davies as third also giving some assistance.

However, with the back players from the opposition playing so well, there was almost always a recovery shot needed, which Don did to perfection regularly.

Graham Brown got off to a bad start on his rink after conceding a '4' and '3' on the opening ends. This left him playing 'catch up' throughout the

game, which was not managed against the gifted opposition.

Kelvin Chedzoy's rink started slowly, but a '2' and '6' brought them back into the game at 12-14 on the 11th end.

Nevertheless, the good play from their talented rivals for the remaining ends allowed them just one more shot.

Howard Craven's four also had a bad start, by going eight shots behind after three ends. By the eighth this was reduced to just one. In spite of this recovery the gap was reopened to nine shots on the 16th end. This was reduced once more with two '3's, but the home side held out.

Scores: D Fanning, S Clarke, M Mathews, H Craven 16-22; G Solomon, D Evans, L Davies, D Kuhnell 21-14; G Powell, L Adams

W Vaughan, G Brown 12-25; D Tuck, H Hellyar, D Brook, K Chedzoy 13-32.

Final score: 62-93.  
**CADOXTON 'A' V MILLWOOD - ML6**

Cadoxton's 'A' side completed their fixtures for the season with a match against Millwood 'A'.

The team was short of players and were well beaten by the visitors.

Scores (skips only): J Crout 28-13 J Butler; J Sugden 7-30 A Hardwick; J Stewart 18-19 M Williams; A Turner 16-29 R Jeffries.

Final score: 69-91.  
DK

## Keen competition on golf trip to Wiltshire

**ON Monday, August 6, 16 ladies from Cottrell Park Golf Club visited the Wiltshire Golf and Country Club for an overnight stay.**

Following bacon rolls on arrival and a putting competition, a four-ball better ball competition was played.

The winners were Patsie Smith and Angela Padfield with 37 points, and runners up were Vicki Long and Louise Case with 36 points.

The putting competition was shared by Helen Poole and Toots Plant with 23 putts. The course was rather soggy after so much rain and the greens were tricky.

Except for a few heavy showers the first day, the weather was kind and the rain held off until leaving on the second day.

An individual medal was played for the 'Lady Cottrell' trophy and also a team stableford competition.

Helen Poole had an excellent day and, as well as winning the putting, she took the Lady Cottrell with 31 points.

She also picked up the prizes for the longest drive (0-25 handicap) and nearest the pin.

Second was Vicki Long with 29 points and third Sian Lovell, also with 29. Judy James, the ladies' captain, won the longest drive for 26-36 handicap.

The team prize was won by Helen Poole, Louise Case and Geraldine Twamley with 69 points.

The trip was enjoyed by all and the ladies captain was thanked for organising it.

**WITH pre-season training out of the way, Barry Youth travelled to Pentrych fielding only 19 players, including eight of last years under-16's.**

With many of the new boys being asked to play out of position due to late pullouts of senior players, this was going to be a big test of stamina.

Pentrych opened the scoring with an unconverted try and a penalty, which was then answered by scrum half Mephem with a sniping run from five metres.

The unconverted try settled the squad, result-

ing in 10 minutes of play which saw some good drives.

However, good ball was squandered and no further points came their way.

Pentrych then came back with a converted try that boosted their morale and rhythm, leaving Barry always on the catch up and having to make double the tackle count.

At stoppages, Pentrych breathed hard but Barry were blowing. The home side, with a bench equal to the playing 15, made regular substitutions, maintaining pace and tempo.

With 20 seconds to go before half-time Mephem kicked for

touch from behind a defensive scrum only for the ball to be gathered by the home side. Two quick passes resulted in a try under the posts, a morale sapping incident for the travellers they could have done without.

Barry tried hard throughout the second half and all players were used – a big thanks to the intake of under-16s of Miles, Legge, Scott, Davies, Burnett, O'Sullivan, Adams and Barnett; coach Rhidian Scott should be very proud.

Pentrych scored twice more in the second half and a third try was bravely blocked by a textbook defensive tackle from full back Blake Wall.

Brad White gained a consolation when he chased an attacking kick forward. He gathered, broke a tackle and went under the posts in the dying minutes for a converted try. The final score was 29-12.

The team next face a big home game against Pontypridd on Saturday, August 25.

MM

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# Enjoying the open road in the new Lexus

**WHAT** felt like three months of continuous rain stopped as I stepped inside the striking Mesa red Lexus IS 250C SE-L Premier.

That was just as well, because I'm a firm believer that you can't drive a cabriolet with the roof up, although if the heavens open it can actually shut in just 21 seconds (the same to retract); the fastest three-part roof on the market, Lexus claims.

The roof only goes back up if there's enough room for the boot lid to move back far enough so if, for instance, you park too close to a wall, it won't work, as I found out!

Its purposeful, angular exterior reminds me a little of an American car. It is certainly distinctive.

The luxury division of Toyota is a byword for quality and it is no surprise to find a particularly comfortable interior with ivory leather upholstery. The eight-way electrically adjusted and operated front seats are also heated and cooled.

Parkers, the car experts, say: "With the popularity of upmarket four-seat convertibles like the Audi A5 and BMW 3-Series convertible, it's no surprise that Lexus has its own version - the IS 250C.

"It's based on the standard IS saloon but the majority of the exterior is unique to the convertible - including the excellent aluminium folding roof.

"Like all Lexus cars, the IS 250C is superbly

By Tim Saunders

built and refined, but it seems this has come at the expense of driving enjoyment and it lacks that 'fun' factor you'd expect to find in any convertible.

"On the plus side, all versions come incredibly generously equipped and the metal roof means it can be as secure and as comfortable as a coupe."

I take issue with the Parkers' comment about driving enjoyment, as I find it provides an engaging experience. Sure it's not the fastest from 0 to 60mph but it is a happy motorway cruiser that doesn't buffet at high speeds, like some, and it is happy to be thrown round bends and corners, handling the challenge well, in my opinion, feeling rigid and competent contrary to earlier reports of body roll and a lack of grip.

A firm ride helps the sporty feel and the 2.5-litre engine, coupled to the six-speed auto provides a decent driving experience. The suspension is firm and overall the Lexus is a supremely refined vehicle.

There aren't many cars on the market with a foot operated parking brake but as you can see by watching the video at testdrives.biz, this has one, located to the left of the foot pedals.

The cruise control operates at speeds of 29mph and above and automatically keeps the car at a safe



distance behind the vehicle in front. However, there is not the option to adjust the distance that can be found on other vehicles from Volvo or Rolls Royce, for instance.

As is the case with all such systems it can be guilty of accelerating and braking too forcefully at times with no extra power for overtaking unless the driver overrides the controls. This could be improved. Although overall, when there's not too much traffic about, it makes motorway cruising a breeze - quite literally with the roof down. Driving with that hood lowered is such a great way of waking up in the mornings! Using sport mode on the auto box is a disappointment as it doesn't seem to make any difference in power. But for those seeking more enjoyable driving selecting the manual

gear shifts either side of the steering wheel gives more control.

As is the case with many a cabriolet, the boot is barely large enough for a briefcase and laptop. When locked the wing mirrors automatically fold up, to protect them from any parking damage.

Many, including those brash BBC Top Gear presenters, criticise the IS 250C, slating its price and flawed handling. They believe that the Lexus is no match for a similarly priced fabric roofed Porsche Boxster. Well it depends what you want from a cabriolet doesn't it?

If you want brute force then of course the convertible Porsche will win hands down. But if suave sophistication is more your thing, then I'm sorry but the much more gentlemanly metal-topped Lexus must win.

Then of course there is the fact that Lexus consistently comes top of the What Car? reliability survey.

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0-60mph: 9 secs

Top speed: 130mph

Engine: 2.5-litre

Power: 205bhp

Combined economy: 30.7mpg

Watch the video at [www.testdrives.biz](http://www.testdrives.biz)

## Busy spell for the Rising Sun Club



**THE** weather may not have been too good but the Rising Sun Kyokushin Karate Club has been busy throughout the last few months.

At the beginning of June four senior members of the club, Lewis Giles, Des Brown, Dave Jenkins and Tom Dalton, entered into the British Regional Full Contact Championships.

The team, coached by Spencer Bennett, had to travel to Reading to compete. Lewis Giles competed in the light-weight category which was by far the largest group of the day.

Lewis dominated through his fights but was unlucky enough to sustain an injury that prevented his fighting in the final so he was

awarded silver. Tom Dalton, who has only been with the club 18 months, worked hard in his first middleweight fight against the current champion.

Tom fought hard in his match and the judges failed to make a clear decision on a winner; he was just pipped to the post by his rival during an extension to the fight.

Dave Jenkins, one of the club's veteran fighters and a contender for the middleweight title was unfortunately put out of the tournament due to a kick to the head after dominating for the first half of his bout.

Des Brown completed the team and after some convincing wins in the first rounds, he made it through to the semi-finals to take bronze for his club.

The focus in July was

on the junior members of the club who completed a 1000 punch sponsored event for charity.

They all worked extremely hard and even though many of them found the task a little gruelling they all completed it. They raised over £200 which will be going to Cliv-Sargent, a children's cancer charity.

The club also had a beach training session at Barry Island. This involved the students doing warm ups, kicks, punches and kata on the sand. After their hard morning work on the beach they enjoyed a game of football, which of course Sempai Spencer's team won!

The club is next looking forward to a barbecue at Porthkerry in a couple of weeks before the hard work of training for the next competition begins in earnest.

That will be the British Open Championships in October where a large contingent from the club

will be participating. They are Sempai Lee Bennett, Sempai Spencer Bennett, Des Brown, Paul Stephens, Dan Jenkins, Lewis Giles, Tom Dalton, Dave Jenkins and Lawrence Mitchell. Everyone at the club wishes them great success and a huge

thankyou to Sensei and Sempai for all their hard work and dedication to the club.

For anyone interested in joining the club, or for more information on class times and beginners course please contact Lee Bennett on 07861699476. L.H

## Charity wins at Dinas Tennis Club



**DESPITE** being a support Dinas Powys tennis club's annual charity tournament.

The tournament's main sponsor was Dunlop Slazenger and we are very grateful to them for their generous prizes including a new tennis racket. Thanks also to all the other individual sponsors, as over £500 was raised for Marie Curie.

The winner of the tournament was Paul Arcos, seen here being presented with his prize by the chair of the club, Marion Curtis.

NW

## DONATE A KIT TO SIERRA LEONE



ABOVE:

*Coach Peter Griffiths said: "Providing these football kits will bring African communities together and help raise self esteem and confidence."*

**PG10 Coaching, Forging Links and former Everton FC and Wales most capped international footballer Neville Southall have joined forces to support a campaign to provide 96 schools in Sierra Leone with junior football kits.**

The aim is to increase participation in football and provide opportunities for communities to come together through sport.

The project will also enable young people and adults the opportunity to gain accredited qualifications in sport and first aid.

Peter Griffiths of PG10 Coaching and Mo Jannah of Forging Links recently worked in Sierra Leone providing educational and sporting opportunities to some of the most deprived children in

the world.

Peter commented: "From coaching in a number of countries, it is clear football is one language, by providing these football kits will bring African communities together and help raise self esteem and confidence. We encourage local junior

teams and clubs from Wales to donate their old kits to the campaign to help make a huge difference to children suffering from awful child poverty."

To donate a football kit please email [info@pg10coaching.co.uk](mailto:info@pg10coaching.co.uk) or phone 07955270870

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# GEM sport

## ATH PREPARE FOR NEW SEASON WITH BIG WIN

**BRIDGEND ATHLETIC** were given a useful workout at Maesteg in preparation for their campaign in the new Championship Division.

New coaches Stuart Morris and Paul Jones, in conjunction with David Williams, head coach John Apsee and director of rugby Paul Yardley, used 33 players on the day in a game of three half-hour periods.

It was pleasing to win 40-23, but it was more important to see how new players blended in with current Athletic players.

First blood went to Maesteg when former Athletic player Cory Butler put the Old Parish ahead with a well struck penalty. Athletic outside half Steven Lewis made a break and put last sea-

son's best back Michael Hathaway over for the first Athletic try of the new season; Lewis converted.

Wing Nick Hinton broke out of defence and, when halted, the ball travelled via scrum half Rhys Hollyman, Lewis, Hathaway and new centre Dominique Busitill to debutant wing Kyle Dobbins.

Dobbins showed his potential, beating three men in a 35-metre run to the line, crossing under the posts; Lewis converted.

Butler reduced the deficit to 14-6 with a second penalty but the lead was extended to 21-6 when flanker Sean Derrick picked up from a five metre scrum to force his way over for the third Athletic try, converted by Lewis.

The second third saw the Athletic completely change the forwards and



Scrum half Aled Thomas off-loads to team-mates at the tackle.

two of the back division.

Lock Jonathon Stoker took a five metre line out and the pack drove Maesteg back over the try line for hooker Nathan Homan to emerge with ball and claim the fourth try.

Maesteg responded with a period of pressure rewarded by former Athletic wing Mike Powell touching down to make the score 26-11 at the end of the second period.

The Athletic introduced a further eight new players for the final session.

Michael Hathaway made a great break from well inside his own half, which was carried on by Chris McGrath and Aled Roberts. When halted, a maul formed and Nathan Holman was again driven over for his second try, Lewis converted.

Stuart Nation, playing at flanker, gathered a loose ball inside the Maesteg 22 and made good ground before giving outstanding hooker Simon Mustoe his just rewards of scoring the sixth try. Lewis converted to stretch the lead to 40 points to 11.



Lock Dean Greenslade bursts forward.

To their credit 07939 413661.

The Athletic now visit Kidwelly this Saturday before beginning their championship season at home to Bonymaen on September 1; the Second XV visit Nantymoel in a pre-season friendly.

The club have also entered a team in the inaugural Colin Hillman Sevens at the Police ground on Sunday, August 26. Colin is the father of Athletic flanker Matthew, and was a well-respected player, especially in the Welsh sevens set up, both captaining the side and later as head coach.

The club would still like to strengthen their squad and anybody interested should contact team manager Paul Hearne on 07970 348065, or director of rugby Paul Yardley on AB

## Bridgend groups travel to Lions' friendly games



ABOVE: Penybont Gateway Club doing the 'Usain Bolt'!



ABOVE: The Bridgend-based Every Link Counts group, also emulating the great Jamaican sprinter.

## Players wanted

**PORTHCAWL under-13s rugby team are in urgent need of new players.**

If you would like to play then either come to training at 6.30pm on a Monday evening at Porthcawl RFC on South Road, or contact one of the coaches - all phone numbers can be found on our website at: [porthcawlrfc.com](http://porthcawlrfc.com).

ON Sunday, August 12, the Lions Club of Bridgend took 20 members from two local disability organisations to the Bob Cook Memorial Games for the disabled for a grand day of athletic competition.

More than 270 competitors from south Wales and the west country took part.

The games are held every August at the County Ground Athletics Track, Swindon, and the event is marshalled by AAA officials to ensure fairness and accuracy.

There are events for all categories of disability and the objective is for individuals and groups to have a fun day out.

Bridgend Lions are proud to have sponsored entrants from Penybont Gateway Club and Every Link Counts, providing travel arrangements and commemorative T-shirts.

This year, the 20 competitors from the Bridgend area won an incredible 81 medals between them, including 32 gold!

The exhausted but happy participants wore their medals with pride on their journey back home to Bridgend.

TERRY BARRETT

## Sevens tournament in memory of Colin Hillman

A SEVENS tournament will take place on Sunday, August 26 in memory of former Wales sevens coach Colin Hillman.

The former Bridgend, Swansea and South Wales Police hooker coached the Welsh national sevens team and was still a WRU Technical Advisor to the Wales sevens team.

The inaugural Colin Hillman Invitational Sevens kicks off at 11am at the South Wales Police Rugby Ground in Waterton Cross, Bridgend, with 10 teams competing.

As well as playing for a number of Welsh clubs, Hillman also played for the Barbarians and Wales sevens as his name became heavily associated with sevens both in a playing, coaching and managing role.

The tournament, a brainchild of Colin's son Matthew and Keith Miles, takes place for the first time with local sides and invitational teams competing to win the trophy.

Teams taking part include Bridgend Sports RFC, two Bridgend Athletic teams, Glaze Charity 7, Kenfig Hill RFC, Maesteg RFC, Nantymoel RFC, South Wales Police Hillman 7, Dinas Powys RFC and Samurais Sharks.

All proceeds raised from the day will go to the Y Bwthyn Newydd Macmillan Specialist Care Unit at the Princes of Wales Hospital, Bridgend.

Before the semi-finals and final there will be an exhibition of tag rugby by junior teams organised by WRU development staff, while Bridgend Athletic's Simon

Mustoe has agreed to have his legs waxed for the charity regardless of how his team fares in the tournament.

Paul John, the current head coach of Wales sevens, will present the trophies, while WRU head of rugby Joe Lydon will also attend. He said: "I'm really looking forward to attending the Colin Hillman Invitational Sevens."

"The concept is a fitting tribute to Colin who was an outstanding, well respected coach and a real friend and supporter of sevens rugby worldwide."

The rugby competition takes place alongside a hog roast and barbecue with an outside licensed bar. There will also be children's rides, stalls and a raffle on the day.

KM



Centre Michael Hathaway on the charge.  
PICTURES COURTESY OF GLENNSPORTS

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